Wabash Plain Dealer

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WabashPlainDealer

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2019

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.







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Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web -support@wabashplain dealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Choral concert **featuring Christmas** music planned

A choral concert under the direction of Pastor Kent Harding, featuring classic traditional Christmas music will take place at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, at the Living Well Winchester Center 239 Bond St.

'The Polar Express' to be shown at the **Honeywell Center**

"The Polar Express" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

Mike Almon acoustic guitar concert planned

Come and listen to a variety of acoustic guitar music from noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 35 E. Market St. Call 260-563-4475 for more information.

Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet planned

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will be hosting Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet.

'Paint Like Bob Ross' at the NMPL Two "Paint Like Bob

See PULSE / Page A3

Inside

Classified, B6 Sports, B1 Business, A5 Crossword, B4 Viewpoint, A4



Harris announces candidacy



POLITICS: Chad Harris was introduced to the Wabash County Democratic Party on Thursday, Feb. 18, 2016 as its new county chairman, taking the place of long-time chair Bryan McCallen, who stepped down after 31 years.

Wabash County Democratic Party chair to seek an Indiana DNC delegate slot

BY ROB BURGESS

Wabash County Democratic Party Chairman Chad Harris announced his canof the Indiana delegate slots at the Democratic National July 13 to 16, 2020 in Milwaukee.

Harris has been involved campaigns since 1999. Harto the 2012, 2014, 2016 and convention in June." 2018 state conventions.

In 2013, Harris was chosen to be a member of the Indiana Democratic Party's Emerging Leaders Project. He was one of only 40 people under 40 selected for the year-long training program.

In 2014, Harris ran unsuccessfully for Wabash County Council 2nd District seat.

Harris has been chairman of the Wabash County Democratic Party since February

2016. 'Over the next few months I plan to attend events and party meetings throughout May 5, 2020.

the 10-county 2nd congressional district to meet as many future state delegates as possible, as they will elect the DNC delegate didacy Wednesday for one at the state convention in June," stated Harris. "It has been a bucket list of mine to Convention (DNC) from serve as a DNC delegate at a national convention since I was a very young, and 2020 seemed like a good year to in many local, and state try and make that happen. Wabash County will have ris has been a state delegate nine delegates to the state

In a phone interview with the Plain Dealer on Wednesday, Harris said he believed he was the first one in the district to announce their candidacy.

"I know there will be others running, I just don't think anyone (else) has announced," he said.

Harris said he thought there were about five candidates currently running in the Democratic presidential primary who were going to be viable by the time the primary election takes place

Steyer and Mike Bloomberg as being on that list.

"They're in the race now. They'll be in the debate in December, but I don't think the billionaires can buy the nomination like they're trying to do. I think the Democratic voters see through that," he said.

Indiana's national convention delegation

Indiana will send 108 individuals to the 2020 DNC: 55 district-level delegates, 18 at-large delegates, nine party leaders and elected officials (PLEO) delegates, seven automatic delegates.

Also, the Indiana Democratic Party will also send six at-large alternate delegates, nine standing committee members, three pages and one delegation chair.

"Indiana is allotted 55 district-level delegates that are apportioned to the nine congressional districts based on the 2016 presidential and gubernatorial results in Indiana," stated Phil Johnson,

Harris said he did not see communications billionaires such as Tom of the Indiana Democratic Party, in response to a Plain Dealer request. "Those delegates will be allotted to specific presidential candidates based on the results of the 2020 primary election in those congressional districts. State convention delegates will vote on who will be the district-level delegates at the Indiana Democratic State Convention on June 13, 2020."

Johnson stated the additional members of the delegation will be allotted to specific presidential candidates based on the statewide results of the 2020 primary election.

"These delegates will be voted on by those that will be elected as district-level delegates," he stated.

Johnson stated Indiana has one fewer unpledged automatic delegate than in 2016, as Sen. Joe Donnelly lost his re-election bid in 2018.

"Also, following a rule

See **HARRIS** / Page A2

Francois selected as Schwarzman Scholar

First from Haiti, MU to be chosen for fully-funded graduate program in global affairs

BY ANNE GREGORY

Manchester University senior Geraldy (Chris) Francois has been selected for the prestigious Schwarzman Scholars Program, the first person to be chosen for this honor from the Republic of Haiti and from the University in northeast Indiana. One hundred forty-five

Schwarzman Scholars were selected from more than 4,700 applicants from 41 countries and 108 universi-Anchored in an 11-month

professional master's degree in global affairs at Beijing's Tsinghua University, the fully-funded program provides scholars with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, engage in high-level interactions with Chinese leaders and visiting speakers, and learn from

world-class faculty. Scholars Schwarzman

experience extensive lead-

network of senior mentors, and travel seminars around The Class of 2021 will en-

roll in August 2020.

These future leaders will join a global network of Schwarzman Scholars who have committed themselves to be a force for change, regardless of where their personal or professional passions take them.

"I am inspired by these remarkable, accomplished and dynamic young individuals who will be joining Schwarzman Scholars at a time when its mission is more important than ever," said Stephen A. Schwarzman, founding trustee of Schwarzman Scholars, in announcing the new class. Majoring in peace studies

at Manchester, Francois is co-founder and director of marketing of Delice Dental Health Initiative, a nonprofit Haitian communities.

that has worked since 2015 to improve access to quality dental care in rural and urban Francois is a student assistant at the Manchester University Peace Studies Institute, president of the Amnesty International chapter

at MU, founding president

and hub coordinator of Sun-

ership training, practical rise Manchester University,

training and internships, a president of the International



PROVIDED PHOTO

Francois has been selected for the prestigious Schwarzman Scholars Program, the first person to be chosen for this honor from the Republic of Haiti and from the University in northeast Indiana.

Association, secretary of the Alpha Mu Gamma Nu Gamsistant at Oakwood Hall.

ma chapter and a resident as-"I am extremely thankful to professors Tara Beth Smithson, Janina P. Traxler and Katy Gray Brown,

who have accompanied

me throughout the process,

helped me proofread my es-

says, and provided emotional support," Francois said, also thanking Leslie Marlatt and Sarah Aubrey from the MU Career and Professional Development staff.

Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

OJN Spanish program receives \$20K grant

School's Dual Language Immersion Pilot Program awarded for third year

BY ROB BURGESS rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) announced Thursday additional grant recipients of the Indiana Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program.

Due to the availability of additional funding, Indiana opened the second round of awards for the 2019-2020 school year. One of those awards was

\$20,000 for OJ Neighbours (OJN) Elementary School's Spanish program.

In response to a Plain Dealer request on Monday, Adam Baker, IDOE press secretary stated OJN has received the grant for each of the past three years. In the first two years they received \$50,000 each year, and this year they received \$20,000.

"Our team of reviewers use a rubric based heavily from the Center for Applied Linguistics Guiding Principles for Dual Language Education," stated Baker. "This grant helps schools provide professional development for teachers, to purchase instructional materials in the target language and to fund visas for

See GRANT / Page A3

First Day Hikes planned at Salamonie, Mississinewa

Staff Report

A pair of New Year's Day hikes have been planned for Mississinewa and Salamonie lakes, according to a series of press releases.

Salamonie Lake Start the New Year off

right with fresh air and renewed senses. Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services' staff for a First Day Hike at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1 at Salamonie Lake at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews.

Meet at the interpretive center for a one-hour stroll through the woods along the moderate Tree Trail. Dress for the weather. Families and friendly dogs on leashes welcome. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

Mississinewa Lake Empower your senses

with an evening stroll at Mississinewa Lake. Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services' staff for a First Day Hike at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1 at 4673 S. 625 East, Peru.

Meet at Moswa Trailhead at Bostwick Pond located within Miami State Recreation Area and meander through the woods along the Moswa Trail. Plan to be on the trail an hour with S'mores served around a cozy fire afterward. Dress for the weather. Families and friendly dogs on leashes welcome. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

U.S. firms keep hiring, easing worries of weakening economy

BY CHRISTOPHER RUGABER

WASHINGTON American businesses have complained for years that they can't find the workers they need to fill available jobs. November's robust hiring gain suggests that at least some have found a

way to do so. With the unemployment rate now at a half-century low of 3.5 percent, many economists have warned that hiring would soon slow simply because there are fewer unemployed workers available.

That day may still come, but it didn't in November. Employers added 266,000 jobs last month, the most since January. Monthly hiring has, in fact, picked up since earlier this year: It averaged 205,000 for the past three months, up from a recent low of 135,000 in July.

Friday's jobs report largely squelched fears of a recession that had taken hold in the summer. Steady job growth has helped reassure consumers that the economy is expanding and that their jobs and incomes remain secure. That should boost spending and growth in the months ahead.

President Donald Trump seized on the strong jobs report as he tries to focus voters' attention on the state of the economy rather than the impeachment inquiry being led by House Democrats. The latest numbers also come as Trump's trade war with China had prompted companies to cut back on their investments in plants and industrial equipment, slowing growth.

"Without the horror show that is the Radical Left. Do Nothing Democrats, the Stock Markets and Economy would be even better, if that is possible, and the Border would be closed to the evil of Drugs, Gangs and all other problems! #2020," the president tweeted.

He returned to the report later Friday, tweeting: JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!"

Employers seemed to be shrugging off economic concerns, adding jobs at a solid clip. And other risks to the global economy, such as a disorderly Brexit for the U.K., have faded in the past month. Given all that, the economy could provide a boost for Trump in next vear's election.

Investors cheered the report, sending the Dow

change by the Democratic

National Committee, un-

pledged automatic delegates

will not be allowed to vote on

the first ballot to choose the

party's presidential nominee

at National Convention un-

less a candidate has already

secured a majority of the

convention using pledged

The process for becoming

According to Adi Ben Ye-

hoshua, data director for the

Indiana Democratic Party,

there is a five-step process

for becoming a national del-

■ Step 1: Pick who you

National delegates must

pledge support to one can-

didate when filling out their

forms to become a delegate.

"I would probably pledge

myself with whoever won

the congressional district,"

said Harris. "It happens to

be (South Bend Mayor) Pete

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plaindealer.com

congressional

wish to vote for in the presi-

delegates," he stated.

a national delegate

dential primary.

Buttigieg's

egate:

HARRIS

Jones industrial average trading.

The new job numbers were released as companies have been getting more creative about enticing workers as the ranks of the unemployed dwindle. Some are willing to hire people who are less qualified and train them, while others are raising pay to attract more applicants. Still others are offering flexible work schedules or have dropped some drug-testing requirements.

These efforts have lifted the proportion of Americans with jobs and lowered the unemployment rate by much more than many economists thought possible.

"Companies have somehow achieved continued success in luring job candidates," said Stephen Stanlev, chief economist at Amherst Pierpont Securities.

Some recruiters have overhauled their approach to hiring and retention as the competition for workers has tightened. Beth Thress, vice president of human resources at a Cincinnati-based company that owns two senior living centers, said it became harder to retain nursing aides and housekeepers once such retailers as Walmart and Target increased their pay.

So Thress went to the board of Maple Knoll Communities, a nonprofit that employs 675 people, and won approval to raise starting pay. She also offered more flexible schedules and set up an emergency fund for employees.

"There's just a lot more competition, you've got meet their needs in some form or fashion," she said. "It's been a real shift in

The changes are working so far, Thress said. The company has reduced turnover from about 40 percent in 2017 to just 8 percent so far this year.

have in previous expansions, but there are signs of improvement. Average hourly pay for workers, excluding managers and supervisors, which covers about 80 percent of the workforce, rose 3.7 percent in November from a year ago. That's just a tick lower than October's figure, which was the highest since the recession.

The higher pay is coaxup 340 points in afternoon ing workers off the sidelines and back into the job market. The proportion of Americans in their prime working years, aged 25 through 54, with a job was 80.3 percent last month. matching October's level as the highest since January

Companies are also offering bigger raises to entice potential candidates who are working elsewhere. People who switched jobs saw their pay rise 4.3 percent from a year earlier, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, the biggest gain since the recession and a full percentage point higher than the pay increase for those who staved.

Becky Frankiewicz, president of Manpower Group North America, says her organization often tells its corporate clients to consider loosening their job listing criteria.

"We are counseling companies to look at the requirements they set for a job and ask if they are really mandatory or just nice to have," she said.

Frankiewicz pointed to the fact that nearly 90 percent of the technology jobs listed at Manpower require a college degree in computer science, but less than half the people working in the field have one.

Rebecca Hamilton, co-CEO of Badger Balm, a skincare company, said the firm's generous pay and benefits have made it easy to fill jobs, even though it is based in a small town of 700 near Keene, New Hampshire.

The 90-person company offers health and retirement benefits, but also an on-site gym, yoga classes and massages, and a free organic lunch every day.

"We don't have any trouble whatsoever finding really good, talented people," Hamilton said.

Still, it's not clear how Wages overall still aren't long companies will be able growing as quickly as they to keep hiring at November's blowout pace. The fact that wages gains are accelerating suggests that companies aren't just luring in new workers, but fighting for a smaller pool of appli-

> "It's an indication that we are starting to reach the limits of the job market," said Joe Song, an economist at Bank of America Merrill Lvnch.

that plays out." ■ Step 2: Volunteer with the campaign.

district, so we'll see how

"Work with your candidate's campaign to boost their message in Indiana," stated Ben Yehoshua. "You can help your candidate collect petitions to get on the ballot, volunteer to make calls or knock on doors, donate to your favorite candidate, or any other organizing activities. The more votes they receive in the primary, the more delegates they will be allotted."

A presidential candidate must receive at least 15 percent of the vote in each congressional district to be allotted any district-level delegates and 15 percent of the vote statewide to be allotted any at-large delegates.

■ Step 3: File to become a national delegate.

Candidates may file to become a national delegate from 9 a.m. May 1, 2020 through noon June 1, 2020.

■ Step 4: Campaign to be elected.

All National Delegates will be selected on June 13, 2020 at the Indiana Democratic State Convention.

"Only state delegates to Indiana Democratic State Convention will be able to vote," stated Ben Yehoshua. "Spend the time leading up to the convention engaging with Democrats in your county, campaigning for yourself and fundraising to help you get to the convention.'

State delegates are either elected on the primary ballot or by appointment after the primary by the county chair if vacancies exist.

■ Step 5: Head to Milwau-

Showtimes for Thursday, December 6- Thursday, December 12 A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG) Fri: 7:10, 10:00 Sat: 1:10, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00 Sun: 1:10, 4:05, 7:15 Mon- Thurs: 7:15 Midway (PG13) Fri: 7:05, 10:05 Sat: 1:00, 4:10, 7:05, 10:05 Sun: 1:00, 4:10, 7:05 Mon- Thurs: 7:05 Knives Out (PG13) Frozen II in 2D (PG) Fri: 6:45, 9:40 Sat: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40 Sun: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45 Mon- Thurs: 6:45 Fri: 6:55, 9:30 Sat: 1:20, 3:50, 6:55, 9:30 Sun: 1:20, 3:50, 6:55 Mon- Thurs: 6:55

Ford V Ferrari (PG13) Fri: 6:35, 9:50 • Sat: 12:40, 3:40, 6:35, 9:50 Sun: 12:40, 3:40, 6:35 • Mon- Thurs: 6:35

For more information please call 765-460-5322

or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru



Wednesday

Partly Cloudy

24 / 15

8:02 a.m.

First

Thursday

Mostly Cloudy

5-Day Weather Summary

Friday

Mostly Cloudy

41/31



Saturday Rain & Snow Possible 40 / 30

31/23 **Sun and Moon Detailed Local Outlook** 5:20 p.m.

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 26°, humidity of 47%. West wind 10 to 17 mph. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 17°. West wind 7 to 10 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 7°.

Having a Morton's neuroma is a pain in the foot

ly don't want to have surgery, so I am des-

Tuesday

Partly Cloudy

26 / 17

Tomorrow's sunrise.

Today's sunset.

Full

perately look-Elizabeth Ko ing for another remedy. & Eve Glazier I read about a Ask the drug that was Doctors being fasttracked by the FDA. Has it been approved yet? DEAR

READER:

Morton's neuroma is basically pinched nerve in the ball of nerve, which carries sensation from the toes, becomes to rub against, bump into or become trapped by the bones and connective tissues of the mid-foot. This results in sensations ranging from numbness, burning and tingling in the forefoot, the toes or both. all the way to outright - and sometimes significant - pain. Some people also experience swelling between the toes.

The cause for Morton's neuroma isn't fully understood. However, contributing factors include narrow shoes. which squeeze the toes; high-heeled shoes, which exponentially increase the pressure exerted on the ball of the foot; and damage to the nerve due to trauma, inflammation and illness. Biomechanical issues such as flat feet or high arches, which can lead to instability around the joints of the toes, are believed to play a role. Bunions or hammer toes are also considered to be risk factors for developing Morton's neuroma. The repeated stress associated with high-impact sports, such as running and basketball, can also give rise to a neuroma.

Some neuromas can be diagnosed with a physical exam to locate tenderness in the ball of the foot, or to identify a mass. Some people report a sensation of clicking between their toes. Imaging tests such as ultrasound can isolate tissue abnormalities associated with a neuroma. Although an X-ray won't diagnose the condition, it can rule out other potential causes, such as a stress frac-

Treatment depends on the

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

SUNDAY'S **LOTTERIES**

Cash 5 01-08-18-24-38 Cash4Life 17-18-21-44-50, Cash Ball: 1 Daily Three-Midday 8-3-9, SB: 1 **Daily Three-Evening** 1-7-9, SB: 2 Daily Four-Midday 7-6-5-6, SB: 1 Daily Four-Evening 1-7-3-6, SB: 2 Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$314 million Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$140 million

MONDAY'S METALS

ı	Copper	2.66
ı	Lead	0.85
ı	Zinc	1.02
ı	Gold	1.460.41
ı	Silver	16.62
ı	Copper	897.93
ı		
ı		

AREA GRAIN Estimated grain prices Monday at Indianapolisarea elevators: Corn: \$3.94.

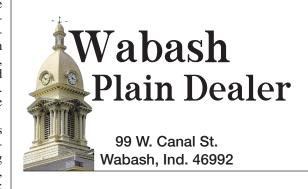
Sovbeans: \$8.80.

DEAR DOCTOR: I have severity of the condition. stance called capsaicin, one Morton's neuroma in both Many people find relief with of the compounds that give feet, and my podiatrist has a change of footwear. Flat- chili peppers their heat. The recommended surgery. I real-soled shoes with a roomy idea is that when delivered toe box and adequate pad- via an injection, the capsaicin ding beneath the ball of the will interfere with the neurofoot can relieve pressure and logical process that transmits protect the affected area. pain signals to the brain. Custom shoe inserts, known as orthotics, can also offer point, the drug was being relief. Some people require considered for use in Moranti-inflammatory medica- ton's neuroma. However, tions or cortisone injections the company developing the to manage pain and inflam- drug has decided to focus its mation. In severe cases, an use for knee pain due to osoutpatient surgery to remove teoarthritis. Clinical trials of the inflamed and enlarged the drug are ongoing. nerve may be necessary.

about, known as CNTX-4975, is being developed to the foot, most often between address moderate and severe the third and fourth toes. The knee pain associated with osteoarthritis. It's an intriguing approach to pain manageswollen due to a benign ment, which uses a laboratogrowth. This allows the nerve ry-derived version of a sub-

You're correct that at one

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an in-The drug you're asking ternist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth tant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthe doctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



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A Holiday Invitation

Annual Christmas Cantata First United Methodist Church Sunday, Dec. 15 3 pm and 7 pm

Choir and orchestra with harp prelude 30 minutes prior to each performance Refreshments following.



FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

Wabash Chapel: Manchester Ave. • 260-563-8879 Bender Chapel, North Manchester • 260-982-4393 Roann Chapel • 765-833-5591 Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421 www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

GRANT

Continued from A1

visiting teachers."

The OJN program

According to Wabash City Schools (WCS), OJN students in the program are with one bilingual teacher who instructs half of the day in English and half of the day in Spanish. During the English-speaking part of the day, the teacher will teach English Language Arts (reading, writing and spelling), math, science and social studies to ensure understanding. During the Spanish-speaking part of the day, the teacher will teach Spanish literacy and will reteach the math, science, and social studies concepts again in Spanish.

offers a rich bilingual experience for young language learners when their minds are developmentally best able to acquire a second language," according to the WCS.

During the Spanish-speaking part of the day, the teacher will only speak in Spanish and will only answer students in Spanish as well. The teacher will communi- awards to continue existing cate through pictures, songs, games, body language and expressions to help students comprehend what is being

"Children at this age are school year. Schools evaluate dated School Corporation, ry School, Spanish, \$20,000.

up on the meaning in lanning of the year to encourage them to begin using the language to communicate as well," according to the WCS.

Parents interested in having their student participate in the Dual Immersion classroom can complete an application in the OJN office. Applications are open to all students entering pre-kinder-

The DLI Program

The DLI Program distributes financial assistance to school corporations or charter schools for either "Dual language immersion the establishment of new programs or the introduction of new languages within existing programs. DLI programs must begin in kindergarten or first grade and use an instructional model that provides at least 50 percent of its instruction in a target language, with the remaining instructional time in English. In total, 10 schools received programs, with one school receiving funding to begin a new language program.

> "Schools must submit data to IDOE at the end of each

very adaptable and can pick students' progress in math Clifty Creek Elementary, and language arts, in addiguage when these strategies tion to progress in the target are used. Students will also language. Factors such as be asked to speak only in attendance, parent involve-Spanish during the Spanish- ment and student engagespeaking part of the day after ment are also considered as a brief period at the begin- research has shown these increase with well-implemented programs," stated Baker.

Baker stated the Indiana Enrolled Act 267, which provided an appropriation for the Department of Education, with the approval of the State Board, to establish and maintain a DLI Pilot Program to provide grants charter schools that establish dual language immersion programs in Chinese, department.

Other schools also awarded

The following list of other corresponding elementary schools besides OJN that have been selected through a competitive grant process to receive funding to begin or continue a dual language immersion program.

The schools are listed by the corporation, school name (or schools' names), language and award amount:

■ Bartholomew Consoli-

Spanish, \$20,000.

- Batesville Community School Corporation, Batesville Primary School, Mandarin, \$20,000.
- Logansport Community School Corporation, Landis Elementary School, Spanish,
- Monroe County Comlegislature enacted Senate munity School Corporation, Summit Elementary and Clear Creek Elementary, Spanish, \$37,000. ■ MSD of Lawrence
- Township, Harrison Hill Elementary, Indian Creek Elementary, Mary Castle to school corporations and Elementary, Skiles Test Elementary, Sunnyside Elementary, Spanish, \$50,000.
- MSD of Warren Town-Spanish, French or any other ship, Pleasant Run Ellanguage approved by the ementary School, Spanish, \$20,000.
 - Muncie Community Schools, West View Elementary School, Spanish, \$20,000.
- South Bend Commuschool corporations and the nity School Corporation, Clay International Academy, French, \$50,000. (This school is receiving DLI funding to begin a new language program.)
 - Warsaw Community Schools, Eisenhower Elementary School and Leesburg Elementary School, Spanish, \$20,000.
 - West Noble School Corporation, West Noble Prima-

John Edward Friend



John Edward Friend, 73, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 9:10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019 at Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center in Wabash. He was

born Aug. 7, 1946 in Jones- Campbell of Wabash, and boro, Arkansas to John Earl Friend and Ruby (Purnell) Thompson.

John was a 1964 graduate of Wabash High School. He retired from the US Army, and served in Vietnam. He also worked at Wabash Metal Products. John attended the Christian Heritage Church. He enjoyed playing poker with the guys, fishing, playing golf, riding his motorcycle, and restoring his Chevy Nova.

He is survived by 3 children, Tonya Friend (Gary Holt) House of Pleasant View, Tennessee, John Edward Friend II of Bon Aqua, Tennessee, and Harold (Michelle) Krieg of Lagro, Indiana, 4 grandchildren, Cassie House of Ashland City, Tennessee, Buster (Coco) Hines www.grandstaff-hentgen. and Tyler Krieg, both of com.

Greenbrier, Arkansas, and Kayla Krieg of Van Buren, Arkansas, great-grandson, Noah Hines of Greenbrier, Arkansas, and 2 sisters, Wanda (Joe)

Diann Carson of Henderson, Tennessee, and his longtime companion, Beverly Ann Adams of Wabash. He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers, Ruben Friend and David Friend, and his sister, Louise How-

Graveside services and burial will be 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019 at Friends Cemetery, Wabash, with Pastor Tim Prater officiating. Friends may call 4 - 7 p.m. Friday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash.

Preferred memorials are the Wabash V.F.W. Post 286 or the Animal Shelter of Wabash County.

The memorial guest book for John may be signed at

Jesse James Little

Funeral services for Jesse James Little, 89 of rural Roann, will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. Burial in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Visitation is 9 - 10:30 a.m. Thursday.

Robert E. 'Bob' Garner

Services for Robert E. "Bob" Garner are 11 a.m. Friday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash, with visitation 9:30 - 11 a.m. Burial in Friends Cemetery, Wabash.

Ronald 'Ron' Eugene Rife

Memorial services Ronald "Ron" Eugene Rife will be 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019 at the Wabash Chapel Church of God, Wabash, with visitation 2 - 4 p.m. Saturday. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wa-

Roderick 'Rod' Winters

Funeral services for Roderick "Rod" Winters, 67, formerly of Roann, Indiana were 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019 at the Roann United Methodist Church. Pastor Wayne Balmer officiated and Connie Doud was the musician. Memories were shared by his family and

Community Cemetery, and the pallbearers were Robert "Bud" Winters, Nick Winters, Derrick Winters, Perry R. VanMeter, Brandon Van-Meter and Josh VanMeter. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Roann.

friends. Burial was in Roann

Beverley Kay Hiner

Funeral Services for Bever- Carole Hiner (daughter-inley Kay Hiner, 79, of Wabash, were 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash. David Phillips officiated, Phyllis Price was the pianist. Memories were shared by

law), Terry L. Smith (son-inlaw), and family and friends. Burial was in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Pallbearers were Andrew J. Campbell, Terry L. Smith, Michael L. Hopkins, Travis Patton, Aidan Patton and Thom Hiner.

Tonya Kay Smith (daughter), Bloomington council member starts Indiana

BLOOMINGTON (AP) A longtime Bloomington City Council member is looking to challenge Republican Rep. Trey Hollingsworth for a southern Indiana congressional seat next year.

Democrat Andy Ruff announced his campaign Monday for the party's 9th District nomination in next May's primary. Ruff is ending 20 years as

an at-large member of the Bloomington council after he lost in last spring's Democratic primary while seeking a sixth term. Ruff is an academic adviser at Indiana University and previously was a staffer with former Demo-

Hollingsworth, the son of

trict in 2015, shortly before launching his first congressional campaign. Hollingsworth faced accusation of buying a seat in Congress as he cleared a crowded 2016 GOP primary field with \$3 million he loaned his campaign and attack ads run by a super PAC financed with about \$1 million from his father. Hollingsworth won reelec-

gul, had moved to the dis-

tion in 2018 with 56 percent of the vote even as Democratic nominee Liz Watson spent \$2.5 million on her campaign. The 9th District stretches

from the Ohio River near Louisville, Kentucky, to the southern Indianapolis sub-

PULSE Continued from A1

Ross" classes are scheduled in December at the North Manchester Public Library (NMPL). The first, "Seasons Greetings," will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11. The second, another "Poinsettias" session, will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. This class requires registration and a \$20 materials fee upon registering. Space is limited. Register at the front desk or call 260-982-4773.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 12

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, at the Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester.

Charley Creek Gardens to host 10th Annual **Yule Time Stroll**

Charley Creek Gardens will host its 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll, open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 to Monday, Dec. 23 at 551 N. Miami St. This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available at 518 N. Wabash St.

Fairy House Workshop set for Dec. 14

The program will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Salamonie Interpretive Center at Salamonie Lake, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The cost is \$5 per person payable day of the event. Materials will be provided, with extra materials available for purchase. Advanced registration is required by calling 260-468-2127. Limited

space is available. The suggested age for the program is 10 and above, and those under 18 should be accompanied by an adult.

LaFontaine Lions to host Santa Breakfast

The LaFontaine Lions will host a Santa Breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at the LaFontaine Community Building. The menu will include scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, sausage gravy, biscuit, juice, milk and coffee. Santa arrives at 9 a.m. There will be a free-will donation. Proceeds will go towards the LaFontaine United Methodist Church food pantry. Please bring in non-perishable foods. Donations of old glasses and keys will also be accepted.

Christmas concert planned for Dec. 15

A Christmas concert featuring the Wabash sixth grade chorus has been planned from 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 at the Living Well Winchester Center; 239 Bond St. To enjoy the sounds of the season, register by calling 260-563-4475.

'White Christmas' to be shown at the **Honeywell Center**

"White Christmas" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be \$2 per person.

'Ask a Teenager' tech basics event planned

Bring your electronic devices and your questions, assistance provided by Heartland Career Center Tech students at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Sign-up is requested by calling 260-563-4475.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 17

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 11 a.m. to

5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

Census job opportunities to be discussed

The U.S. Census Bureau has planned a presentation at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Living Well Downtown, 35 E. Market St. to present upcoming census job opportunities. Register for this event by calling 260-563-4475.

Celebrate 'The Wonders of Winter' on Dec. 18

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "The Wonders of Winter" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area. 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/ uwis or facebook.com/ upperwabash.

DivorceCare presents 'Surviving the Holidays' series

The DivorceCare support group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13, will be offering a DVD series "Surviving the Holidays" through Tuesday, Dec. 17. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@ wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org

Breakfast with Santa planned

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Santa will be coming to Breakfast with Santa and will have a special treat for children at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St.

Low Impact Fitness classes scheduled

Fitness that is both fun and free led by Mary Jo Mc-Clelland at 9:45 a.m. every Monday and Thursday, and 3 p.m. Wednesdays at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. There is no fee or registration required.

Cancer care advocate available every Tuesday

A cancer care advocate is available from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Winchester Senior Center, 239 Bond St. No appointment is needed. This service is supported by the Hope Foundation and provided by Cancer Services out of Fort Wayne.

Yoga classes scheduled on Tuesdays

Yoga for those who are intermediate to experienced levels have been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. The cost is \$10, and discount passes are available.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 27

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive.

Senior Luncheon set The monthly Salamonie

Senior Luncheon will be 6, 2020 at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, carry-in meal at noon. Podish to share, a beverage by calling 260-468-2127.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

congressional race **January Salamonie**

held at noon Monday, Jan. Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. The program begins with a tato soup will be provided. Guests should bring a side and their table service. A \$1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made

> cratic U.S. Rep. Baron Hill. a Tennessee business mo-

WWW.WABASHPLAINDEALER.COM / TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young,

R-Ind. **B33 Russell Senate** Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 1-202-224-5623 http://coats.senate.gov/ contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.

B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-4814 http://braun.senate.gov/

R-District 2 419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

202-225-3915

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17 Indiana Senate 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9467

Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18

Indiana House 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9841 h18@in.gov

letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anony-

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be handdelivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@ wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Philippians 4:4

Democrats should not give up the fight to hear from more witnesses

Democrats and Republicans on clear as 'two plus two equals four.' " the House Intelligence Committee have released competing accounts of the more than 100 hours the White House's interference, of testimony collected from 17 witnesses in the impeachment inquiry into President Trump's actions on Ukraine. They are starkly and revealingly at odds.

The Democratic version closely relies on the testimony to describe a "months-long effort by President Trump to use the powers of his office to solicit foreign interference on behalf of his 2020 election." During a phone conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, Mr. Trump explicitly asked for an investigation of a Moscow-concocted lie that Ukraine rather than Rus-Committee in 2016, as well as for a probe of former vice president Joe

Mr. Trump's personal lawyer, Rudolph W. Giuliani, then repeatedly demanded that U.S. diplomats extract a public statement from Mr. Zelensky promising those investigations. Gordon Sondland, an ambassador appointed by Mr. Trump who spoke to the president repeatedly about the matter, testified that his conclusion that military aid to Ukraine was conditioned on Mr. Zelensky's compliance was "as

but they are the direct result of which prevented the testimony of a dozen present or former senior officials and the release of docu-

The account has some gaps,

ments by the White House, the Office of Management and Budget, and three Cabinet departments. The report rightly warns that "this unprecedented campaign of obstruction" poses a serious threat to U.S. democracy: "The damage to our system of checks and balances .. will be long-lasting and potentially irrevocable if the President's ability to stonewall Congress goes

unchecked."

The Republican account could sia hacked the Democratic National not be more different. It brazenly reiterates proven falsehoods and conspiracy theories that the U.S. intelligence community has identified as Russian disinformation. It claims that Mr. Trump was genuinely concerned about Ukrainian corruption, even though he never raised it with Mr. Zelensky, and that he was only "prudent" in holding up military aid for "a thoughtful review," even though the hold continued long after an interagency study unanimously recommended that the aid be released.

The Democratic report lacks di- Washington Post.

rect testimony of Mr. Trump confirming the quid pro quo he was statement by acting White House effect. It also acknowledges "unanswered questions." Among other matters, there are disturbing indisuccessfully extorted the previous Ukrainian government. While saying the intelligence committee's investigation will continue, the Democrats argue that they are unable to wait to refer the impeachment case to the Judiciary Committee because of the "threat of further presidential attempts to solicit foreign interference in our next election.'

While that fear is not unwarranted, the speedy referral smacks of political expediency. The Judiciary Committee may well have enough evidence to draw up articles of impeachment. But the witnesses and documents that Mr. Trump is improperly blocking might well provide a fuller and, to many Americans, more persuasive picture of his guilt - and American democracy cannot afford for Congress to fail to establish its right to obtain them. The fight for them must not be giv-

This editorial was first published in The

demanding, though it cites a public chief of staff Mick Mulvaney to that cations that Mr. Trump may have



The recovery has not been kind to Indiana

er this week, so let's review where ence deeper recessions and more we have come as an economy since the end of the Great Reces-

Michael **Hicks**

more dismal than I prefer, but it is wise to know where we are coming from discussing before our future. The Great Reces-

sion was deep and long. It stretched from December 2007 to June 2009, over which time

U.S. employment declined by 5.2 percent. Indiana saw a deeper decline, with job losses accounting for 7.4 percent of our workers. Indiana actually fared better than should've been expected over this time. About half of recession losses to production occurred in consumer durable and business plant and equipment. As the nation's most manufacturing-intensive state, we had to expect much higher job losses than a state like Florida, Virginia or California. We did, but the unemployment rate peaked well beneath the 1982 level, which is much lower than

In 2011, I co-authored a study comparing Michigan and Indiana through the Great Recession. At its peak, I reported the unemployment rate in Michigan was a full 4.5 percent higher. Much of the difference was attributable to plant closures that were more concentrated in Michigan than in Indiana. I believe Indiana's tax reforms, focus on fiscal solvency and more predictable business environment helped us weather the

Great Recession. This is good news so far, but ment means Indiana's economy is

states and regions with more weakening over time.

I deliver my annual forecast lat- volatile business sectors experirobust recoveries. So, from 2009 to today, Indiana should have ension. The news is far joyed a far more robust economic recovery. In fact, the opposite occurred. From 2009 to the present, Indiana has underperformed the nation by growing jobs and GDP more slowly. Taking into account the Great Recession and the longest economic recovery in U.S. history, Indiana has created jobs at barely over half the rate of the nation as a whole.

This is a surprising and worrisome trend that was not fully apparent until after 2015 as the economic rebound faded in Indiana. But, no matter when we look at data, from either just before or just after the Great Recession through today, Indiana's economic picture compares poorly to the nation as a whole.

Job creation in our state is not just low relative to the nation as a whole, the composition of jobs is decidedly inferior to the national average. As I've noted before, more than 8 in 10 net new jobs nationwide have gone to workers with a college degree. The remaining 2 out of 10 jobs have gone to those with some college or an associate's degree. The U.S. simply

is not creating jobs for workers who haven't been to college. The Indiana story is different. The single largest educational category of job growth since the start of the Great Recession has been workers without a high school diploma. Instead of 8 of 10 jobs going to college graduates, Indiana has fewer jobs for college graduates than we did in

2007. This lack of job growth and

compositional change in employ-

Of course, there are skeptics of these employment data. Many argue they cannot find a plumber or sufficient truck drivers for their business, while college graduates are plentiful. I'm sorry, but labor markets, who have reason to know better, disagree. Wages for college graduates have continued to grow since 2010, but not for others. Were college graduates flooding lower-skilled occupations, this would not be occurring. There are other corroborating data.

GDP growth nationally has been almost twice as great since the start of the Great Recession as it has been in Indiana. Hoosier productivity growth is slower across all sectors, and Indiana's long-term shift away from the national average on wages has continued. There seems to be very little official realization of these facts, particularly in the way we fund education and workforce development. Earlier this week, the state unveiling a program to increase training dollars on occupations that are declining in number, and which pay wages lower than they did in the Clinton Administration. It is flabbergasting. In virtually every meaningful respect, Indiana's recovery from the Great Recession has been a disappointment. It is time to have a cogent, well-informed debate about how to move forward. To do otherwise is to accept an unrelentingly stagnant status quo.

Michael J. Hicks, PhD, is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Hicks earned doctoral and master's degrees in economics from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in economics from Virginia Military Institute. He has authored two books and more than 60 scholarly works focusing on state and local public policy, including tax and expenditure policy and the impact of Wal-Mart on local

Who stole **Donald** Trump's body?

Watching President Trump in conversations last Tuesday with French President Emmanuel Macron and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau caused a moment of cognitive dissonance.

Could this be our Donald Trump speak- Kathleen ing?

sonably

Setting aside whether one agreed with his remarks, the president was well-spoken, reainformed. confident without being abrasive, and, if I may say so, a perfectly human





acceptable being. OK, I spit out my coffee as I wrote that, but my relief was palpable, as was my longing for that person to continue occupying the president's

Such encomiums, of course, result from a very low bar. Trump's grownup performance brought pause precisely because of its contrast to what we're accustomed to. The disparity was so jarring, in fact, that it made me angry. How dare he not behave appropriately every day, not just when he's in the mood. Surely he owes America that much.

Instead, he's a one-man wrecking ball on decency and civility. To wit: His appalling performance at a recent rally in Minneapolis, where he acted out an imagined, sexually exciting telephone conversation between two former FBI agents.

Now that I have your attention, a short note on style versus substance. Some readers will think, who cares how he behaves? Trump supporters have long admonished us to ignore what he says and focus on what he does. To others, Trump is simply an entertainer who also happens to be president and who, apparently, thinks he's a comedian. But, one can be too funny for one's own good, which holds especially true if you're commander in chief and your-own-good extends to about 330 million other people.

Trump's style, indeed, is his own worst enemy - and one of the single greatest reasons so many despise him. His presidency often feels like a sustained whoopee cushion or a boutonniere's squirt in the eye. Critics can't take him seriously because, surely, he can't be serious. A clown speaking about tariffs is still a clown.

I would argue that style and substance are complementary coequals in matters of import. It isn't tenable that Trump act any ol' way and expect trust and respect in return. Nor am I convinced that his political base would dissolve without his antics. How does his mimicry of a reporter with disabilities elevate his followers to make America great again? How does his heavy-breathing mockery of the two former agents enhance their aspirations?

Lisa Page, the female half of the FBI duo, has suffered silently for almost two years as President Trump has repeatedly attacked her, mostly via Twitter. She broke her silence this week with Molly Jong-Fast of The Daily Beast, saying that Trump's "fake orgasm" was the final straw. We can debate what it sounded like, but I wouldn't want my grandchildren to witness it.

As backstory, Page and Peter Strzok had an extramarital affair while working at the agency and exchanged text messages that were leaked, exposing both the romance and their mutual dislike of Trump. Both had been working on investigations of Hillary Clinton's emails and Russian interference in the 2016 election.

Trump owes Page and Strzok a thank-you note rather than a salacious stream of attacks. Their text messages were a gift that allowed him to claim bias and accelerate his campaign of distrust in America's security institutions. The president was undeterred by subsequent findings that, though the two were way out of bounds, their opinions did not constitute bias in their work.

Cynics may point to Page's timing and her likely inclusion in an imminent report from the Justice Department's inspector general. But she has every right to object to the president's indefensible stalking. The question is, why isn't the sound of outrage deafening? How is it possible that Republicans condone such behavior with their silence?

The answer isn't only that Trump otherwise pleases them. It is that, as a society, we've become inured to outrage by its constancy. We swim, steep and marinate in rudeness, coarseness, foul-language and lurid behavior. President Trump could have been a leader but chose to seek attention instead. He, not the media, is the true enemy of the people – at least the decent ones.

How an adult with no credit history boosted her credit score to 743 in just three months

While I generally discourage young adults from using credit, at some point they do need to prove they can manage debt.

The widely used FICO credit score, which is derived from information in

Singletary

credit vour ranges Michelle from a low of 300 to a high of 850. Your score – along with other financial factors – directly affects how much interest

you pay for the money you borrow. Your score also influences your insurance rates as well as your ability to get an apartment or even a job.

But how do you show a lender that you can manage debt well if, to get credit, you have to have a positive credit history? That's what one reader wanted to know.

"My child graduated college, moved home, got a good job, opened a bank account at a small local bank with direct deposit, and then applied for a credit card at a large national bank," the reader wrote during one of my recent online discussions. "The bank turned (my child) down, however, saying, 'the credit reporting agency serving your area has reported no credit history for you.' What does a new graduate need to do to establish a minimal history sufficient to get a credit card?"

it doesn't take very long to establish good credit. So, there's no need to panic that your teen or young adult child doesn't yet have good

student need a credit card? Will she be renting an apartment or getting a car loan in the next few years?

If you plan it right, you can much about the interest rate, help your child build a good credit profile just in time to qualify for a loan or lease starting out as a young adult without needing a co-signer.

As our eldest was getting close to graduating from college, we made her an authorized user on our credit card. This tactic is called "piggy-

The point is to let the authorized user benefit from the positive credit history of the primary cardholder. However, you should be aware that the person piggybacking on your good name isn't liable for paying any of the charges he or she makes on the card. So be extremely careful about using this

After about a year of behad our daughter apply for a general-purpose credit card.

She was turned down because her income was too low. She's working at an internship with a small monthly stipend. But we just wanted her to test if our credit history alone was enough to get her approved.

Having been rejected, she then applied for a secured credit card, which is backed by money deposited into a savings account. For example, if the required deposit and three months, her credit is \$200, that becomes your credit limit.

If the young adult already has a banking or credit union account, start the search for a secured card at that institution. Bankrate.com regu-It might surprise you, but larly profiles the top secured card offers. On its list of best secured cards for 2019 are several credit cards with no annual fees, and most only require a deposit of \$200.

Shop around to avoid cards Why does a high school with high fees, and make sure the issuer is reporting to all three credit bureaus -Experian, Equifax and TransUnion. Don't worry too to do otherwise is indicated.

because the balance should be paid off every month.

Our daughter was approved for a secured card from her credit union with a \$250 limit.

The next two steps are crucial: We told her to only make small-dollar purchases and to pay the entire balance off before the due date every

The two biggest factors to getting and keeping a good credit score are paying your bills on time and keeping your debts low or paying them off completely. Analysis has shown that consumers with FICO scores over 800 use an average of just 7 percent of their available

Our daughter got her seing an authorized user, we cured card in May and made a \$27.95 purchase for gas. She used the card a second time in July to charge \$15 for the Metro.

> "I paid off the balance as soon as the charge posted,"

With no credit history of her own other than the boost from being an authorized user when she applied for the secured card, her credit score was 698, which is pretty good.

After just two charges score increased to 737. So, she stopped using credit.

When she last checked, her score had jumped to 743.

Mission accomplished. She has established that she can handle debt.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle. singletary @washpost.com.Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/ MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writ-

Busting your food budget? Here's how much you should spend on groceries

BY MICHELLE SINGLETARY It's easy to justify over-

But I find a lot of families are spending too much at whether they are spending the grocery store and eating out.

"Is there a percentage considered normal heads with people and their is a big budget buster. We spend about 30 percent of which I think is way too thinks is OK."

between food at home (5 hungry.) percent) and away from home (4.7 percent), accordof Agriculture (USDA).

Disposable personal inmoney consumers have left after taxes and any other mandatory withholdings

of the reader's family and Although, I suspect that it and age.

the lowest income quintile spent an average of \$4,109 on food, representing 35.1 percent of income, according to the USDA. Housequintile spent an average of ing 8.2 percent of income.

households spend more report: money on food, but it represents a smaller overall budget share," the USDA

Families with higher spending on food. You have household incomes – more \$208.90 than enough for their needs should be examining too much on food, including at the grocery store.

for spending on a food budgets. Eating out they and beverage?" a reader get. It's a luxury. Yet, they asked during a recent on- can't see that they are also line discussion. "To me it wasting money at the supermarket because it's not seen as an overindulgence. our take-home pay (after They dismiss the fact that tax and savings) on food, their shopping list only had staples such as milk, eggs much, but my husband and bread - even though they came out with bags In 2018, Americans spent of other items they didn't an average of 9.7 percent need. (One easy way to of their disposable personal trim your grocery costs: incomes on food - divided Don't shop when you're

If you want to determine if you're overspending at ing to the U.S. Department the supermarket, the USDA provides a useful weekly and monthly guideline. Go come refers to how much to usda.gov and search for "Cost of Food Reports."

The food plans, which are put out every month, are deducted from their are broken down into four categories of spending: Without knowing the size thrifty, low-cost, moderate-cost and liberal. The their income, I can't say USDA lists average food with certainty that their 30 costs for a nutritious diet of percent spending for food meals and snacks prepared and beverages is too high. at home, based on gender

Let's say you're a family Last year, households in of five. This includes two adults (the husband and wife are in their 40s) and three children, ages 2, 10 and 12. On a low-cost plan, the average monthly food holds in the highest income expenditure for this family would be \$1,037.20. Here's \$13,348 on food, represent- how the costs are broken down on an individual ba-"As their incomes rise, sis in the latest USDA food

■ Male adult: \$242,60 ■ Female adult: \$210.50

12-year-old

10-year-old

2-year-old \$134.50

But let's say you're on a liberal plan. The monthly cost would jump to \$1,570 This is where I often butt for the family. Of course this is average

spending, so you would

adjust your spending according to the needs of your family and any dietary restrictions. Still, assess whether your spending is way out of line. Food is always one of the

hardest areas to trim in a household budget. In my experience, people make a lot of excuses for excess spending in this area. And eating out is the biggest culprit of budget busting.

In 2018, food away from home accounted for 54.4 percent of total food expenditures, according to the USDA.

Think of budget percentage guidelines as you might the recommendations for how many calories you should consume per day. The total number of calories a person needs depends on a number of factors, such as age, weight and level of physical activ-

If you want to lose or gain weight, you adjust the calories consumed.

The same goes with your budget. Set percentage goals for various expense categories to either save more or lose the debt that is consuming so much of your income. You may even need to do both – save and reduce debt.

Yes, you have to eat. But don't let this basic need bust your budget. If you're not watching your spending in this area, you could be eating your wealth boy: away.

Lutheran Health Physicians encourages maximizing health plan benefits

During the fall and winter months, it's easy to get caught up in holiday planning and forget to take advantage of your insurance benefits. Every fall, individuals should direct their attention to outstanding healthcare needs and take full advantage of paid-up deductibles or available funds in Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs).

considering their healthcare needs, people also should consider the best strategy for using their available health insurance plan benefits," stated Nicole Rexroth, chief operating officer, Lutheran Health Physicians, in a press release. "Now is the time to take advantage of unused benefits to complete outstanding treatments or recommended tests or procedures."

Most health insurance plans have a deductible requirement a predetermined amount of

be covered before the plan begins paying the majority of, if not all, remaining expenses.

Rexroth stated it's crucial to know how close you are to meeting your deductible - or if you've already met it "because once you reach that threshold, you have a limited window of opportunity to obtain healthcare services and have the bulk of that expense covered by your plan. Remember, a new year brings a new deductible."

The close of 2019 also affects individuals who have FSAs, which are pre-tax dollars set aside primarily for health-related expenses. The Internal Revenue Service requires those funds to be spent – or forfeited – by Dec 31. It's a "use it or lose it" proposition, stated Rexroth.

If you have been putting off scheduling care, such as

healthcare expenses that must an annual check-up, allergy testing or knee replacement surgery, it would be wise to check your deductible status and your FSA balance to see if there's money to be saved, stated Rexroth.

"It's important to schedule services promptly so that there is enough time to have the test or elective procedure done before the end of the year. Getting everything squared-away by early December will help ensure the services you receive are considered part of your 2019 coverage," she stated.

Every health plan is different. It is important to know how your plan works so you can get the most from your benefits. For questions about your plan, call your insurance provider.

To find a physician and/or schedule care, visit https://lutheranhealthphysicians.com/ Scheduling.

Amazon says Trump's 'improper pressure' doomed Pentagon bid

BY MATT O'BRIEN

and JOSEPH PISANI

Donald Trump's "improper pressure" and behindthe-scenes attacks harmed its chances of winning a \$10 billion Pentagon con-

The Pentagon awarded the cloud computing contract to Microsoft in Octo-

Amazon argues in a lawsuit unsealed Monday in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims that the decision should be revisited because of "substantial and pervasive errors" and Trump's interference.

Amazon and its founder Jeff Bezos have been a frequent target of Trump, president. Bezos personally owns The Washington Post, which Trump has referred to as "fake news" whenever unfavorable stories are published about him.

Amazon said it lost the deal due to Trump's "personal vendetta against Mr. Bezos, Amazon, and the Washington Post."

Pentagon spokeswoman Elissa Smith said in a statement Monday the decision to select Microsoft "was made by an expert team of career public servants and military officers" and without external influence. Formally called the Joint

Enterprise Defense Infrastructure plan, or JEDI, the military's computing project would store and process vast amounts of fense Department has said military to advance its use handling classified gov- find out."

of artificial intelligence.

became the finalists af-Amazon says President ter Oracle and IBM were eliminated in an earlier round of the contract competition. Oracle had also sued, arguing the bidding was rigged in Amazon's favor. Trump publicly waded into the bidding process over the summer, saying he heard complaints and wanted the Pentagon to take a closer

look. "The department is confident in the JEDI award and remains focused on getting this critical capability into the hands of our warfighters as quickly and efficiently as possible," Smith said.

The White House didn't even before he became immediately return an emailed request for comment Monday. Microsoft also didn't immediately return a request for comment but is intervening in the court case to defend its contract win.

Charles Tiefer, a government contracting law professor at the University of Baltimore, said it would be "an uphill battle" for Amazon to win the lawsuit.

The company must prove real influence by the president beyond his tweets and campaign speeches. Emails and other documents would have to prove that Trump's views toward Amazon were on the mind of officials in charge of awarding the contract.

"That's hard to show," Tiefer said. "But it's not impossible.'

Amazon makes the case classified data. The De- in the lawsuit that its cloud services were a better fit it will help speed up its for the project because war planning and fighting of its speed, efficiency

ernment data. It says the Amazon and Microsoft Defense Department made errors in the procurement process that make little sense without taking into account Trump's antipathy toward Amazon. Some of the lawsuit's details are redacted for proprietary or security reasons.

> "Basic justice requires reevaluation of proposals and a new award decision," the lawsuit says. "The stakes are high. The question is whether the President of the United States should be allowed to use the budget of DoD to pursue his own personal and political ends.'

> Amazon Web Services has been the industry leader in moving businesses and other institutions onto its cloud – a term used to describe banks of servers in remote data centers that can be accessed from almost anywhere. But Microsoft's Azure cloud platform has been steadily catching up, as have other providers such as Google, in both corporate and government settings.

Mike Hettinger, a tech industry lobbyist focused on federal contracting, said a strong case could have been made for either Amazon or Microsoft winning the contract but it is hard for an outside observer to know what went into the government's technical evaluations and whether Trump's comments or actions influenced the outcome. Amazon is likely to use the case to seek more internal documents from the government.

"I don't think anybody knows what happened behind the scenes," Hettinger said. "I think that's what capabilities and enable the and experience securely this lawsuit is intended to

Mereen-Johnson acquires Diehl Machines potential for growth with

Minneapolis-based Mereen-Johnson, LLC announced Tuesday, Dec. 3 the acquisition of Diehl Machines, a Wabash-based manufacturer of industrial woodworking equipment, according to a press release.

"We believe the acquisition of Diehl Machines (allows us) to add a complementary line of products to Wilmes, CEO of Mereen-

new products and innovation from the Diehl line."

Mereen-Johnson, founded in 1905, also manufacturers a line of heavy-duty industrial production machinery, primarily geared to the wood industry, but increasingly used in the cutting of composites, plastics, aluminum and many other materials.

"Part of what drew us to our portfolio," stated Paul Diehl was the high quality of the workforce in the Wa-Johnson. "We also see great bash area," stated Wilmes. the future."

"This is a great area and we look forward to growing here and being an active part of the community. ... Like Mereen-Johnson, Diehl has a history going back over 100 years and is well-known in the industry for manufacturing high quality, long-lasting machinery. As a result, we intend to keep the Diehl name on the line of products we are acquiring as well as develop plans for growing it in

DO JUST ONE THING

BY DANNY SEO

Are you sick or is someone ill with a cold or flu in your household? To help prevent the spread of germs, it's important to disinfect household items that can harbor viruses on their surfaces. The top items include your phone, which is typically in constant contact, the sick person feels better.

because cold and flu viruses can last for days on the screens. Other common items include remote controls, bathroom and kitchen faucets, and towels, which should be cleaned in hot water. Wipe down door handles and computer keyboards, and wash all bedding once

Too much of a Greta thing? Activist urges focus on others

BY FRANK JORDANS and ARITZ PARRA

Associated Press

MADRID — With dozens of cameras pointing at her across a room full of reporters, celebrity teen environmentalist Greta Thunberg had an unexpected message: Look the other way.

"Our stories have been told over and over again," Thunberg said, explaining why she and prominent German activist Luisa Neubauer would be handing over the stage at the U.N. climate meeting in Madrid to other young activists. "There is no need to listen to us anymore."

The 16-year-old Swede has become the face of the youth climate movement, drawing large crowds with her appearances at protests and conferences over the past year and a half.

Veteran campaigners and scientists have welcomed her activism, including her combative speeches challenging world leaders to do more to stop global warming. But some say that it's time to put the spotlight on other young activists who also have a strong story to tell about climate change.

"Greta and other youth leaders have been an incatalyzed a whole group of others who have struggled

young people," said Jennifer Morgan, the executive director of Greenpeace International. "And I think that the media needs to do a better job at covering that."

Thunberg and those close to her appeared to agree.

Neubauer, a 23-year-old who has become the face of the Fridays for Future student movement in Germany, said the focus on her and Thunberg was "incredibly disproportionate."

Thunberg was met by a crowd of cameras as she arrived in Portugal last week, having sailed back to Europe to avoid air travel for environmental reasons. On Friday, she left a protest march through the Spanish capital early after being mobbed by crowds of protesters and reporters.

"We want to break this up," Neubauer told The Associated Press.

"It's really about them," she said of the young activists from developing countries already facing the effects of climate change, including violent storms, droughts and rising sea levels. "We talk about our future, they talk about their

Thunberg said she felt a "moral duty" to use the mecredible inspiration and dia's attention to promote

to get the limelight.

"It is people especially from the global south, especially from indigenous communities, who need to tell their stories," she said before handing the microphone to environmentalists voung from around the globe.

Among them was Kisha Erah Muaña, a 23-year-old activist from the Philippines, who called on global leaders to take "robust and lasting action" against climate change.

"We are talking about lives and survival here," she

Some stressed the risks they are exposing themselves to for speaking out on climate change.

"I am from Russia, where everyone can be arrested for anything," said Arshak Makichyan, a 25-year-old violinist from Moscow. "But I am not afraid to be arrested. I'm afraid not to do enough.'

Thunberg's angry accusations that world leaders are failing the younger generation have made headlines, including her shouts of "How dare you?" at the U.N. General Assembly earlier this year. However, politicians have, by and large, praised Thunberg and her movement as an important voice of her generation.

"We have all of the youth around the world that are marching and calling to our conscience. And they have moral authority," said former Vice President Al Gore, calling Thunberg "an absolutely fantastic leader."

Other young activists now being propelled to the fore may find more push-back for their views.

Rose Whipple, 18, a community organizer from Minnesota who has taken part in the Standing Rock protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline, linked the issue of climate change to broader political concerns, including racism and longstanding grievances among indigenous groups.

"We deserve to be listened to and we also deserve to have our lands back," said Whipple, wearing a sweatshirt with the words "Destroy white supremacy."

Morgan, of Greenpeace, said she hoped attention would shift "to others who are living on the front line of climate impacts, who are trying to mobilize and push their governments as well."

"And I hope that can be the beginning of showing the world the very, very diverse set of young people who are desperate for leadership coming from their governments," she said.

N. Korea calls Trump 'erratic' old man

BY KIM TONG-HYUNG

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea insulted U.S. President Donald Trump again on Monday, calling him a "heedless and erratic old man" after he tweeted that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un wouldn't want to abandon a special relationship between the two leaders and affect the American presidential election by resuming hostile acts.

A senior North Korean official, former nuclear negotiator Kim Yong Chol, said in a statement that his country wouldn't cave in to U.S. pressure because it has nothing to lose and accused the Trump administration of attempting to buy time ahead of an endof-year deadline set by Kim Jong Un for Washington to salvage nuclear talks.

In a separate statement, former Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong said Trump's comments were a "corroboration that he feels fear" about what North Korea might do when Kim's deadline expires and warned Trump to think twice if he wants to avoid "bigger catastrophic consequences."

On Sunday, Trump tweeted: "Kim Jong Un is too smart and has far too much to lose, everything actually, if he acts in a hostile way ... North Korea, under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, has tremendous economic potential, but it must denuclearize as promised."

He was referring to a vague leaders during their first last year that called for a nuwithout describing when or how it would occur.

"does not want to void his government titles.

special relationship with the President of the United States or interfere with the U.S. Presidential Election in

November." Kim Yong Chol said Trump's tweets clearly show that he is an irritated old man

'bereft of patience." "As (Trump) is such a heedless and erratic old man, the time when we cannot but call him a 'dotard' again may come," Kim Yong Chol said.

"Trump has too many things that he does not know about (North Korea). We have nothing more to lose. Though the U.S. may take away anything more from us, it can never remove the strong sense of self-respect, might and resentment against the U.S. from us."

Kim Yong Chol traveled to Washington and met with the U.S. president twice last year while setting up the summits with Kim Jong Un.

In his statement, Ri, currently a vice chairman of the ruling Workers' Party's Central Committee, said Trump would be well advised to stop using "abusive language" that may offend Kim.

"Trump might be in great jitters but he had better accept the status quo that as he sowed, so he should reap, and think twice if he does not want to see bigger catastrophic consequences," Ri

"Our final judgment and decision which will soon be made at the end of this year are to be done by the chairstatement issued by the two man of the State Affairs Commission, and he has summit in Singapore in June neither clarified any stand yet nor made any ironic and clear-free Korean Peninsula irritating expressions toward the other party as done by someone," Ri added, refer-Trump added that Kim ring to Kim by one of his

Accidents raise questions about arming teachers

BY MARTHA BELLISLE

SEATTLE — As the country looks for ways to deal with mass shootings at schools, some have responded by saying more people should carry guns, including teachers.

"The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun," President Donald Trump told the National Rifle Association convention in April. More states are allowing teachers to carry guns, he said, and "who better to protect our children than our teachers, who love them."

But a close look at unintentional shootings by law enforcement officers, including at schools, raises doubts about whether more guns help keep students

An Associated Press investigation has found accidental shootings occur at law enforcement agencies large and small across the United States every year. The examination of public records and media reports documented 1,422 unintentional shootings by officers at 258 agencies since 2012.

Twenty-two occurred at schools or college campuses.

At least nine states have passed laws allowing employees to carry firearms at K-12 school grounds, according to the National School Boards Association. Nineteen states allow anyone with permission from a school authority to be armed at schools, the association said.

Experts say anybody carrying guns, including teachers, needs ongoing, intensive training to be able to handle their firearms proficiently and respond appropriately in stressful settings – and many enforcement officers

don't even get that.

The idea that anybody can go to Joe Smith's School of Shooting for a day or a week and become proficient at shooting a handgun in a lifeand-death situation is a little bit absurd," said Doug Tangen, firearms program manager at the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, the state police

Shooting a gun requires psychomotor skills that must be practiced over and over, he

"Most people, cops included, don't devote that practice time to be able to shoot it responsibly or carry it responsibly," he said.

The AP's investigation found six accidental shootings that involved officers responding to reports of active shooters.

In 2016, for example, local, state and federal officers rushed to Alpine High School in the small town of Alpine, Texas, when a call came in about two shooters inside.

A half-dozen heavily armed officers and agents headed toward the cafeteria and then down the hallway toward classroom No. 24, thinking the shooter might be inside.

Just as Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent Jon Dangle touched the doorknob, a shot rang out, and he fell to the floor. The other officers grabbed him by his bulletproof vest and dragged him to safety.

No one knew where the shot came from or who fired it, Dangle said.

'We thought the shooter was in that classroom," which still contained a teacher and students, he told the AP. "If they (the other agents) had opened fire, more would be

U.S. Marshal Douglas Mullens eventually admitted he had accidentally discharged his weapon. He was carrying a ballistic shield in one hand and fumbling with a handgun in the other when it went off. according to the Texas Rangers, who investigated the shooting.

Dangle suffered a shattered tibia and torn muscles and nerves. He was out of work for 15 months and eventually moved his family to Oklahoma so he could get better

Dave Oney, a spokesman for the U.S. Marshals Service, said the agency "does not discuss personnel matters" when asked if Mullens faced any disciplinary action or charges.

Other accidental shootings at schools occurred while officers chased or arrested suspects, taught gun safety classes, or attended school events while off-duty, the AP found. Some injured officers,

teachers or students. One happened the day after the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, when a sheriff's deputy shot himself in the leg while responding to a report of a person with a gun at a school in neighboring Coconut Creek.

Accidental shootings can occur when an officer is flush with adrenaline, gets startled or simply loses his balance. Ways to avoid them include following firearms safety rules and training regularly and in settings that mirror real life, experts say.

Steven Karnazes, president of Ventura, California-based Advanced Tactical Training Institute, trains people in schools and churches to

prepare for armed attacks. After taking clients through classroom safety sessions, Karnazes teaches firearm handling by "making things as realistic as we can."

"If you are a person at a church or school and you want to carry a firearm, that commitment comes with a lot of responsibility," he said. "You have to be a lifelong student and continue to train."

Alan Gottlieb, founder of the Bellevue, Washingtonbased Second Amendment Foundation, supports arming teachers as a way to prevent violence, saying gun-free school zones are a "targetrich environment for people who are crazy."

He believes the average gun owner engages in more training than police due to budget constraint, and says trained school personnel could do a better job of protecting students.

Yet many educators have resisted the idea that they should carry guns.

National advocacy group Teach Plus in 2018 surveyed more than 1,200 teachers about being armed at schools, and 80 percent said they were strongly opposed.

Also last year, the National Education Association, the country's largest teachers union, asked roughly 1,000 members if they would be willing to carry a gun in school, even with training, and 82 percent said no.

"We reject the idea that putting more guns in schools will make schools safer," the group's president, Lily Eskelsen García, told the AP. "If a highly trained law enforcement officer can accidentally fire a weapon, let's talk about the third-grade teacher with a loaded pistol in her purse."

Palestinians in Bethlehem look beyond religious tourism

BY JOSEPH KRAUSS AND **MOHAMMAD DARAGHMEH**

BETHLEHEM, watched tour buses drive church. up to the Church of the Nativity, disgorge their passengers for a few hours at the traditional birthplace of Jesus, and then return to Israel.

But in recent years a new form of tourism has taken root, focused on the West Bank town's Palestinian residents, their culture and history and their struggles under Israeli occupation.

As pilgrims descend on Bethlehem this Christmas, they have the option of staying in restored centuries-old guesthouses, taking food tours of local markets, and perusing the dystopian art in and around a hotel designed by the British graffiti artist Banksy.

The centerpiece of tourism, and the focus of Christmas celebrations in the coming weeks, is the 6th-century Church of the Nativity, built on the site where Jesus is believed to have been born in a manger. Extensive renovations in recent years have saved the roof from collapse and revealed colorful wall mosaics depicting angels and saints.

Earlier this month, the Vatican returned a small part of what Christians manger, which was sent people," he said.

to Rome as a gift to the pope in the 7th century. The thumb-sized relic, West displayed in an ornate Bank — For decades, the silver case, can be seen people of Bethlehem have in a chapel adjoining the

In Manger Square, just outside the church, a massive Christmas tree has been set up and festivities are planned in the coming weeks as various denominations hold staggered Christmas celebrations. On Jan. 7, Bethlehem will host an international Santa

convention. Tourism has suffered in the past during outbreaks of violence between Israel and the Palestinians. But the Palestinian Tourism Ministry expects 3.5 million visitors to Bethlehem in 2019, up from 3 million the previous year, and many think there is still

"The general tion in Palestine and the Holy Land is that there is very good security, better than most countries in the world, and so the people are visiting," said Elias al-Arja, chairman of the local hotel association.

room for growth.

He noted that while the Holy Land includes the most important sites in Christianity, including the places where tradition says Christ was born, where he grew up, was crucified and resurrected, it attracts far fewer visitors than the Vatican. "We have the opbelieve to be the original portunity to draw more

Putin sits down with Ukraine leader for first time

BY VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

and YURAS KARMANAU

PARIS — Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy met for the first time Monday at a summit in Paris to try to end five years of war between Ukrainian troops and Russian-backed separatists.

Both leaders sat down at the French presidential palace along with the leaders of France and Germany for talks focused on reviving a 2015 peace agreement for eastern Ukraine that has largely stalled. The war has killed 14,000 people since 2014, emboldened the Kremlin and reshaped European geopolitics, and Zelenskiy in particular is keen for it to end.

A major breakthrough is unlikely, and Ukrainian pro-

testers in Kyiv are heaping pressure on Zelenskiy not to surrender too much to Putin at their first face-to-face meet-But the fact that Putin and

Zelenskiy met at all was a significant step after years of war. Putin and Zelenskiy faced each other across the table, flanked by French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Putin and Zelenskiy are expected to hold a separate one-on-one meeting later.

Whatever happens, the summit is the biggest test yet for Zelenskiy, a comic actor and political novice who won the presidency this year in a landslide – partly on promises to

end the war. The 2015 peace agreement helped to reduce the intensity of the fighting but Ukrainian

separatists have continued to exchange fire across World War I-style trenches along a front line that slices through eastern Ukraine. While Zelenskiy still en-

joys broad public support, he has been embarrassed by the scandal around his discussions with U.S. President Donald Trump that have unleashed an impeachment inquiry in Washington. The U.S. is an important military backer for Ukraine, which is hugely out-gunned by Rus-

While the U.S. was never part of this peace process, U.S. backing has strengthened Ukraine's overall negotiating position vis-a-vis Russia in the past. Now that support is increasingly in doubt, after the Trump administration

soldiers and Russia-backed froze military aid earlier this year and is increasingly focused on Trump's re-election bid. With U.S. influence waning around the world, many in Kyiv see one clear winner: Russia. Some Ukrainians fear Zel-

enskiy will be out-maneuvered by Putin Several thousand protesters rallied in the Ukrainian capital Sunday to urge Zelenskiy not to make any concessions to Russia, and 100 opposition activists set up a tent camp outside his office with banners reading "No to capitulation!"

"Russia started the war, and any negotiations with the aggressor elicit our suspicion and vigilance, especially when we're being forced into peace on Russian terms," said 21-year-old student Igor Der-





Sports

Apaches repeat as Wabash County wrestling champions

The Wabash wrestling team earned its third consecutive Wabash County Tournament championship on Satuday at Northfield. County champions for the Apaches on the day were Jared Brooks at 113 pounds, Ethan Higgins at 120 pounds, Anthony Long at 126 pounds. Robert Barnett at 132 pounds, Brayden Sickafus at 145 pounds, Traydon Goodwin at 152 pounds, Grant Carandante at 160 pounds and Bryson Zapata at 170 pounds. County champions for Manchester were Dylan Stroud at 138 pounds and Ashton Moore at 195 pounds. For Southwood, the lone county champion was Aaliyah Douglass at 106 pounds.

Squires earn road win with strong fourth

The Manchester boys' basketball team traveled to Wawasee on Friday and came away with a 61-50 win. The Squires outscored the hosts 23-10 in the fourth quarter. Caleb Stout and Thane Creager each had 14 points while Weston Hamby had 13 and Max Carter 12.

Apaches drop close battle with Delta

On the road on Friday, the Wabash boys' basketball team fell to Delta 62-51. Trenton Daughtry led the team in scoring with 19 points while Elijah Vander Velden had 12 points. Dereck Vogel had eight points and 10 rebounds.

Knight lose TRC duel to Zebras

The Southwood girls' basketball team fell to Rochester on the road on Saturday, 70-47. After being tied at 20-20 to close the first, the hosts outscored the Knights 50-27 the remainder of the game. Erin Lehner had a 12 points and MaKenna Pace eight in the loss.

Vikings suffocate Apaches

The Wabash girls's basketball team fell to Tippecanoe Valley at home on Saturday, 49-25. The Apaches never scored more than eight points in any quarter on the night. Alivia Short had six points and six rebounds while Mariah Wyatt had five points and eight rebounds.

Emmanuel Christian falls on Friday The Emmanuel Christian basketball team fell to Kings Academy of Marion on Friday, 55-39. Riley Miller finished with 11 points and seven rebounds, JC Frank has nine points and six rebounds and Brogan Templin had eight points and five rebounds.

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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



DEFENSE: Northfield's Emma Hoover (left) surveys the field while Manchester's Emma Garriott (right) plays defense

Norse knock off Squires, continue win streak

BY JACOB RUDE

NORTH MANCHESTER — In each of Northfield's conferenceconsecutive winning seasons in the prior two years, the only team to knock off them off was county rivals Manchester. In fact, the Norse were 16-0 against the rest of the Three Rivers Conference and 0-2 against the Squires in that

As a result, despite heavy graduations from both sides, Saturday's duel between the Squires and Norse carried a little extra weight than even just a Three Rivers Conference clash. But a 10-1 run from Northfield to open the game and a stingy defense that held the hosts Manchester to two points over a near- the night.

ly 11-minute span in the seca 38-33 win on the night.

"It's huge," Northfield head coach Melissa Allen said of the win. "This game, usually we're shooting about 18 percent and can't do anything right. Tonight, they came ready to play and got the win for us."

gates with a pair of Emma Hoover three-pointers sandwiched by layups from Addi Baker as part of a 10-1 run that forced a Squire timeout just over three minutes into the game.

It was a run unlike any the Norse made in the two previous games against the Squires and something Allen called a deciding factor on

"I think if that start ond half carried the Norse to wouldn't have happened, we probably wouldn't have won just because of the intensity part," she said. "Not the score but the intensity of the overall game. The girls knew they could do it. They just had to get it done."

But even then, Manchester slowly crawled back into The Norse flew out of the the game, tying the contest by halftime at 23-23 after scoring the final five points of the first half. Northfield flexed its defensive muscle in the second half, suffocating the Squires and allowing just two points in the third quarter, opening the margin up to 32-25.

"That's everything I'm doing as a coach to try to help us," Manchester head coach Josh Troyer said of his side's

second-half struggles. "We watched a webinar last week to try to figure out some stuff to help in the second half. We got a couple of stops, we just didn't get the score. We've got starters that aren't looking for their shot and a team that needs to look for its shot.

"We talked about being disciplined and I thought we were for the most part. It's just almost sometimes that discipline doesn't mean we're not shooting it at all," he added. "It just means you have to catch (the ball) ready and when it's a good shot, you take it. I thought we passed up some of those in the second half. And Northfield's a quality opponent.

See NORSE / Page B2

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Viking size overwhelms Knights in loss

BY JACOB RUDE

HUNTINGTON NORTH - Huntington North and Southwood have long established themselves as a

match-up of size versus speed. Friday's encounter was not only the same story but an exaggerated example of it. While Southwood forced the hosts into 25 turnovers that they turned into 18 points, the Vikings outrebounded the guests by a staggering 44-11.

In the end, it would be that size and rebounding battle that would win out, though just barely. Huntington North overcame a fourth-quarter deficit by limiting the Knights to just two points over the final 3:17 to come away with a 46-43

"It's incredible that we were able to be in the game because we didn't shoot a very good percentage," Southwood head coach John Burrus said. "When you throw that in you have to ask 'Well, how were we in it?' It was our defense. We forced 25 turnovers against Huntington North who, most of their games this year, they're going to have under 10. We got to credit our kid's defense. But you also have to credit Huntington North.

They're a really good defen-

sive team. They do a great

job of keeping you on the perimeter.'

The game of runs saw Southwood outscore the Vikings 15-7 in the third period before taking 35-33 lead to start the fourth. A flurry of baskets late in the fourth saw Dawson Filip give Southwood a 41-39 with a threepointer before Dominic Cardwell tied the game at 41-41 after a pair of freebies.

Baskets from Jordan Hollowell and Filip moved the score to 43-43 before Hollowell gave the Vikings a two-point lead with 60 seconds left. After draining the clock, the Knights would get an open look and a shot to take the lead on a Jackson Simons three-pointer with 12 seconds left but the shot bounced around the rim and

Sam Thompson would leave the door open, though, as he split his pair of free throws on the other end after being fouled, leaving Southwood down 46-43. Carson Rich would get off a shot before the buzzer but his shot would hit front iron, allowing Huntington North to escape with the win.

"I think a lot of it was Dom Cardwell on the boards," Huntington North head coach Craig Teagle said of how his team was able to

See VIKINGS / Page B2



JACOB RUDE/Plain Deale

DRIBBLE: Southwood's Carson Rich brings the ball upcourt during the fourth quarter of Friday's game at Huntington North.

COLLEGE **FOOTBALL Analysis:** 4 enough for now to keep CFP expansion talk quiet

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

COLUMBUS — College football always needs an argument when it comes to the postseason. This year, it was whether LSU or Ohio State should be the top seed in the fourteam playoff.

Four was enough this season to accommodate the teams worthy of a crack at the national championship. more than enough.

Unlike last season, when Ohio State was left out with a legitimate case to be in the College Football Playoff. That sparked a month of posturing and chatter — mostly from Big Ten country — about expansion beyond four teams. The university presidents who oversee the CFP ended up saying, essentially: "We're good with what we got - for

Playoff expansion is an evergreen topic in sports, always guaranteed to stir up debate. In years such as this, when things fall gently into place, with No. 1 LSU (13-0) facing No. 4 Oklahoma (12-1) and No. 2 Ohio State (13-0) playing No. 3 Clemson (13-0), the calls for a bigger field tend to be muted. But they

don't go away. Expansion still seems inevitable, even though it has become apparent over the first six seasons of the playoff that it is just not needed to crown a deserving champion.

"I think it's definitely something we should consider, not that it would be easy to play three more games," Ohio State coach Ryan Day said. "But I definitely think that we should consider taking the conference champs in the Power Five programs. I just think that's a cleaner way to do it. I know there's certain issues we would have to work through, not that now is the time to focus on those type of questions and thoughts."

The time is getting clos-

This season marks the halfway point of the 12year contract the College Football Playoff struck with ESPN. There are separate agreements with each of the six bowls in the CFP rotation and three of those games have agreements with conferences that are separate from the playoff altogether.

If the FBS commissioners who run the playoff — with the Power Five leaders having by far the most say — all decided they wanted to expand the field, it would take at least a year for them to figure how to do it. And it would have to be jammed into the current structure, from the bowls to the already set dates of the semifinals and championship games through the 2025 season. Indications are the

brainstorming for expansion has already begun, somewhat informally and with no great urgency.

"There's a lot that's right about the four-team playoff. I think one of the things we found, though, is that it's harder to be on the outside looking in than it was when it was just two teams," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said. 'We're halfway through it and it's a good time to take

See CFP / Page B3

ESPN: Jimmy V Classic:

Texas Tech vs. Louisville,

ESPNU: St. Joseph's at

FS1: Brown at St. John's

ESPN: Jimmy V Classic:

ESPN2: Butler at Baylor

ESPNU: Nevada (Reno) at

PAC-12N: Northern Iowa

Mississippi State (6-6) vs. Louisville (7-5), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Redbox Bowl

Santa Clara, Calif.
Illinois (6-6) vs. California (7-5), 4 p.m. (FOX)

Orange Bowl

Miami Gardens, Fla.

Florida (10-2) vs. Virginia (9-4), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 31

Charlotte, N.C.

Kentucky (7-5) vs. Finia Tech (8-4), Noon (ESPN)

Sun Bowl

El Paso, Texas Florida State (6-6) vs. Arizona State (7-5),

Arizona Bowl

Tucson, Ariz.

Alamo Bowl

Outback Bowl

Sugar Bowl New Orleans

Thursday, Jan. 2

Gator Rowl

Jacksonville, Fla.

Friday, Jan. 3 Famous Idaho Potato Bowl

Ohio (6-6) vs. Nevada (7-5), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN) **Saturday, Jan. 4**

Armed Services Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas

Southern Miss (7-5) vs. Tulane (6-6), 11:30

Monday, Jan. 6

Lendinatree Bowl

Mobile, Ala.

(10-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Monday, Jan. 13 College Football Championship

Miami (Ohio) (8-5) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette

New Orleans

Peach Bowl winner vs. Fiesta Bowl winner,

College Football Playoff rankings

1. LSU

3. Clemson

Georgia 6. Oregon

4 Oklahoma

Wisconsin

Penn St.

9. Florida

11. Utah

12 Auburn

14. Michigan

17. Memphis

19. Boise St.

Minnesota

20. Appalachian St

22. Southern Cal

25. Oklahoma St

. Stanford (27)

Oregon (1)

San Diego St.

The playoff semifinals match the No. 1 seed

vs. the No. 4 seed, and No. 2 will face No. 3.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's AP Top 25 Poll The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes

10-0

Others receiving votes: Utah St. 160, Washington 144, Purdue 130, Indiana 13, Marquette 11, Liberty 9, Saint Mary's (Cal) 8,

Texas 6, Florida 5, Penn St. 5, Georgetown 4

Richmond 3, West Virginia 3, LSU 2, DePaul 1

AP Women's Top 25 poll
The top 25 teams in The Associated Press

women's college basketball poll, with first-

Dec. 8, total points based on 25 points for

a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

747

686 679

Record

Texas (7-5) vs.

Connecticut vs. Indiana,

SCOREBOARD

(MEN'S)

7 p.m.

New York

Temple

9 p.m.

New York

Brigham Young

at Colorado

Notre Dame

The Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association Top 10 basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses and previous rankings:

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

W-L Northwestern (Kokmo) (6) 96 83 76 71 2. Lawrence North (3) 10-0 3. Crown Point (1) 4. Homestead (1) 11-0 Fishers 6. Hamilton Southeastern 7. Penn 8. Center Grove 32 15 15 9. Brownsburg (tie) Jeffersonville

Others receiving votes: North Central, West Lafayette Harrison, Mt. Vernon Fortville Class 3A 1. Salem (5) 2. Gibson Southern (6) 3. Benton Central 82 4 Winchester 64 53 40 40 31 15 Evansville Memorial Norwell (tie) Silver Creek 9. Greensburg NR 10. Ft. Wayne Luers 6-2 6 NR Others receiving votes: West Lafayette, Northwood, Boonville, Hamilton Heights,

Mishawaka Marian, Vincennes Lincoln, Angola, South Bend St. Joseph's, Heritage Christian, Washington, Bellmont. Class 2A 1. Triton Central (9) 9-0 7-1 8-0 2. University (1) 3. Vincennes Rivet 89 74 69 4. Shenandoah 5. Linton-Stockton 49 37 35 23 20 7 T9 T9 T5 NR 7. S. Knox 8. N. Judson 9. Crawford Co. 10. Monroe Central 15 15 10. Monfroe Central 4-2 15 15 (tie) S. Central Union Mills 4-2 15 NR Others receiving votes: Lafayette Central Catholic, Lapel, Covenant Christian, Clinton Prairie, Forest Park, Eastern Pekin, Northeastern.

Class 1A W-L Pts 98 90 83 Loogootee 6) 2. Oregon-Davís (2) 3. Jac-Cen-Del (1) 4. Trinity Lutheran (2) 5. Tecumseh 73 60 51 39 29 6 Morgan Twp 10 9 8 9. Greenwood Christian 20 19 10. Kouts Others receiving votes: Union City, North Miami, Orleans, Springs Valley, Traders Point Christian Academy, Anderson Prep Academy, Edinburgh, Bethesda Christian, Blue River

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

338 274 New England Buffalo .692 .385 226 .231 221 NY Jets South .615 317 309 Houston .615 .462 318 296 Indianapolis Jacksonville 9 0 .308 230 430 259 273 198 .846 x-Baltimore .646 J 0 .615 T 0 .462 12 0 .077 1 West 4 0 Pittsburgh 291 4 0 .692 371 7 0 .462 258 8 0 .385 236 y-Kansas City Oakland L.A. Chargers 5 8 0 .385 289 NATIONAL CONFERENCE East 0 .462 334 0 .417 274 0 .231 188 0 .167 230 Dallas 7 0 7 0 Philadelphia Washington

N.Y. Giants South .769 .462 344 378 296 381 New Orleans 10 y-New One: Tampa Bay 300 300 Carolina 8 0 9 0 .385 .308 North 3 0 .769 4 0 .692 309 Green Bay 10 270 .692 .538 .269 339 243 287 Minnesota 249 .846 .769 397 341 229 321 San Francisco 11 262 374

L.A. Rams .615 .269 311 272 x-clinched v-clinched division Thursday's Game Chicago 31, Dallas 24

Sunday's Games Green Bay 20, Washington 15 Minnesota 20, Detroit 7 Atlanta 40, Carolina 20 San Francisco 48, New Orleans 46 Cleveland 27, Cincinnati 19 Tampa Bay 38, Indianapolis 35 Denver 38, Houston 24 N.Y. Jets 22, Miami 21 Baltimore 24, Buffalo 17 L.A. Chargers 45, Jacksonville 10

Tennessee 42. Oakland 21 Pittsburgh 23, Arizona 17 L.A. Rams 28, Seattle 12 N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Bowl Glance Bahamas Bowl Buffalo (7-5) vs. Charlotte (7-5), 2 p.m. Frisco (Texas) Bowl

Utah State (7-5) vs. Kent State (6-6), 7:30 Saturday, Dec. 21

At Atlanta NC A&T (8-3) vs. Alcorn State (9-3), Noon **New Mexico Bowl**

Albuquerque Central Michigan (8-5) vs. San Diego State (9-3), 2 p.m. (ESPN)

Cure Bowl Orlando, Fla Georgia Southern (7-5), 2:30 p.m. (CBSSN)

Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl SMU (10-2) vs. FAU (10-3), 3:30 p.m. (ABC) Camellia Bowl Montgomery, Ala. FIU (6-6) vs. Arkansas State (7-5), 5:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Las Vegas Bowl Boise State (12-1) vs. Washington (7-5), 7:30 p.m. (ABC)

New Orleans Bowl UAB (9-4) vs 9 p.m. (ESPN) vs. Appalachian State (12-1), Monday, Dec. 23 Gasparilla Bowl

At Tampa, Fla. UCF (9-3) vs. Marshall (8-4), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN) Tuesday, Dec. 24 Hawaii Bowl

BYU (7-5) vs. Hawaii (9-5), 8 p.m. (ESPN) Thursday, Dec. 26 Independence Bowl **Shreveport, La.** ami (6-6) vs. Louisiana Tech (9-3), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Ouick Lane Bowl. Detroit Pittsburgh (7-5) vs. Eastern Michigan (6-6), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Dec. 27 Military Bowl Annapolis, Md.

North Carolina (6-6) vs. Temple (8-4), Noon **Pinstripe Bowl**

3:20 p.m. (ESPN) Texas Bowl **Houston** Oklahoma State (8-4) vs. Texas A&M (7-5),

6:45 p.m. (ESPN) Holiday Bowl San Diego

lowa (9-3) vs. Southern Cal (8-4), 8 p.m. (FS1) Phoenix

Air Force (10-2) vs. Washington State (6-6), Saturday, Dec. 28 Camping World Bowl Orlando, Fla.

Notre Dame (10-2) vs. Iowa State (7-5), Noon

ON THE AIR

COLLEGE BASKETBALL NBA BASKETBALL 8 p.m. TNT: Denver at Philadel-**ACCN:** Detroit Mercy at

NHL HOCKEY 7:30 p.m. NBCSN: St. Louis at Buffalo ESPN2: Maryland at Penn

RODEO 10 p.m.

CBSSN: Pro Cowboys Association: National Finals, Las Vegas SOCCER (MEN'S)

12:55 p.m. **TNT: UEFA Champions** League: Liverpool at Salzburg, Group E

3 p.m. TNT: UEFA Champions League: Barcelona at Inter Milan, Group F

Cotton Bowl Classic	5. South Carolina	9-1	634	6
Arlington, Texas	Baylor	8-1	598	7
Penn State (10-2) vs. Memphis (12-1), Noon	7. Louisville	9-1	597	2
(ESPN)	Florida St.	9-0	550	8
Peach Bowl	9. NC State	9-0	490	13
Atlanta	10. UCLA	8-0	458	11
CFP Semifinal, LSU (13-0) vs. Oklahoma	11. Texas A&M	7-1	438	12
(12-1), 4 p.m. (ESPN)	12. Indiana	8-1	412	14
Fiesta Bowl	13. Maryland	8-2	395	9
Glendale, Ariz.	14. Kentucky	9-0	386	15
CFP Semifinal, Ohio State (13-0) vs. Clemson	15. Mississippi St.	8-2	349	10
(13-0), 8 p.m. (ESPN)	16. DePaul	7-1	302	16
Monday, Dec. 30	17. Gonzaga	8-1	255	18
SERVPRO First Responder Bowl	18. Arizona	9-0	235	20
Dallas	19. Michigan St.	6-2	150	19
Western Kentucky (8-4) vs. Western Michigan	Missouri St.	8-1	148	22
(7-5), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)	21. Arkansas	8-1	120	23
Music City Bowl	West Virginia	6-1	106	-
March 201 Trans	00 T	- 4	00	47

23. Tennessee 24. Michigan 5-3 56 Others receiving votes: South Dakota 46, Florida Gulf Coast 39, Minnesota 19, North

Carolina 10 Ohio St 6 Rutgers 5 Colorado 3, Arizona St. 1, Texas 1, TCU 1. NBA **EASTERN CONFERENCE** Atlantic Division L 5 7 7 10 19 .762 .708 **Boston** Philadelphia 1½ 4 13 Toronto 15 13 Brooklyn **Southeast Division** GB W 17 L 6 .739 11 16 15 17 5½ 9 9½ .500 .360 .318 .261

Liberty Bowl Memphis, Tenn. Kansas State (8-4) vs. Navy (9-2), 3:45 p.m. Miami Orlando Charlotte Washington Wyoming (7-5) vs. Georgia State (7-5), 4:30 p.m. (CBSSN) Atlanta **Central Division** Pct GB W San Antonio vs. Utah (11-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Wednesday, Jan. 1 Citrus Bowl 3 8 14 Milwaukee .652 .391 Detroit 16 17 Michigan (9-3) vs. Alabama (10-2), 1 p.m. WESTERN CONFERENCE Tampa, Fla.
Minnesota (10-2) vs. Auburn (9-3), 1 p.m.
(ESPN) 7 7 14 Dallas ½ 7

Pasadena, Calif.
Oregon (11-2) vs. Wisconsin (10-3), 5 p.m.
(ESPN) .273 .261 16 17 Northwest Division GB Pct W 14 Denver 10 Georgia (11-2) vs. Baylor (11-2), 8:45 p.m. 10 12 10 12 9 15 .455 .455 .375 Oklahoma City Portland Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl Cincinnati (10-3) vs. Boston College (6-6), 3 p.m. (ESPN) **Pacific Division** L.A. Lakers .708 .455 .409 17 7 10 12 9 13 5 19 L.A. Clippers Phoenix Indiana (8-4) vs. Tennessee (7-5), 7 p.m. Sacramento Golden State Saturday's Games

San Antonio

Dallas 130, New Orleans 84 Indiana 104, New York 103 Philadelphia 141, Cleveland 94 Houston 115, Phoenix 109 Utah 126, Memphis 112

Brooklyn 105, Denver 102 Atlanta 122, Charlotte 107 L.A. Clippers 135, Washington 119 Miami 110, Chicago 105, OT Philadelphia 110 Toronto 104 Sacramento 110, Dallas 106
Oklahoma City 108, Portland 96
L.A. Lakers 142, Minnesota 125 Monday's Games

L.A. Clippers at Indiana Cleveland at Boston Detroit at New Orleans Orlando at Milwaukee Sacramento at Houston Toronto at Chicago Minnesota at Phoenix

Oklahoma City at Utah Memphis at Golden State Today's Games Washington at Charlotte, 7 p.m Denver at Philadelphia, 8 p.m. New York at Portland, 10 p.m.

10 - 3

12-1

8-4 9-2

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division W L OT Pts GF GA 4 6 46105 73 46 105 73 35 105 99 Florida 34 96 95 32 97 102 32 100 103 Buffalo Montreal Toronto Tampa Bay Ottawa 31 102 87 25 79 95 17 66 124 litan Division

Detroit L OT Pts GF GA 4 5 49115 88 7 2 40 81 68 Washington 40 81 68 39 96 85 38 103 81 N.Y. Islanders 28 Philadelphia 30 Pittsburgh 18 11 15 11 11 14 37 33 26 97 82 93 91 71 91 Carolina N.Y. Rangers WESTERN CONFERENCE

college	: Dasketball p	on, with i	rst-piat	e votes	Colullibus	29	1.1	14	4	20	/ 1	91
in pare	ntheses, reco	ords throu	gh Dec.	8, total	New Jersey	29	9	15	5	23	74	109
points	based on 25	points fo	or a firs	t-place	WE	STER						
vote through one point for a 25th-place vote						Cent	ral [Divis	sion			
and las	t week's ranl	king:				GP	W	L	0T	Pts	GF	GA
		Record	Pts	Prv	St. Louis	31	18	7	6	42	92	83
1. Louis	sville (55)	9-0	1591	1	Colorado	29	19	8	2	40	107	79
Kans	sas (4)	7-1	1486	2	Winnipeg	30	18	10	2	38	87	82
Ohio	St. (5)	9-0	1464	6	Dallas	31	17	11	3	37	82	76
4. Mary	yland	10-0	1428	3	Minnesota	30	14	12	4	32	90	98
Mich	nigan	8-1	1286	4	Nashville	28	13	10	5	31	95	92
6. Gonz	zaga	10-1	1235	9	Chicago	30	12	12	6	30	83	93
7. Duke	е	9-1	1232	10		Paci	fic D)ivis	sion			
Kent	ucky	7-1	1170	8		GP	W	L	0T	Pts	GF	GA
Virgi		8-1	1060	5	Edmonton	32	18	10	4	40	97	93
10. Ore		7-2	905	13	Arizona	32		10	4	40	89	75
11. Bay	ylor	7-1	872	18	Vegas	32	15	12	5	35	93	93
12. Auk	ourn	8-0	836	14	Vancouver	30	15	11	4	34	103	91
13. Me	mphis	8-1	756	15	Calgary	31		12		34		92
14. Day	yton	7-1	672	19	San Jose	32	15	15	2	32	88	111
15. Ariz		9-1	654	12	Anaheim	30		14	4		79	
16. Mic	chigan St.	6-3	637	11	Los Angeles	31	11		2		77	
	rth Carolina	6-3	615	7	NOTE: Two p							
18. But		9-0	529	24	overtime lo							
	inessee	7-1	455	21	division and			card	ls pe	er co	nfer	ence
20. Villa		7-2	285	23	advance to pl	ayoffs	3.					
	rida St.	8-2	253	17		Sund			mes	;		
	on Hall	6-3	250	16	Winnipeg 3, A							
23. Xav		9-1	216		Florida 5, Sar							
24. Col		7-1	210	20	N.Y. Rangers	5, Veç	jas C)				
	D' OI	400	107		A.: 4 Ob							

N.Y. Rangers 5, Vegas 0 Arizona 4, Chicago 3, S0 Buffalo 3, Edmonton 2, OT N.Y. Islanders at Tampa Bay

Columbus at Washington Calgary at Colorado Today's Games Tampa Bay at Florida, 7 p.m. Montreal at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m. St. Louis at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.

San Jose at Nashville, 8 p.m. Detroit at Winnipeg, 8 p.m. Anaheim at Minnesota, 8 p.m. New Jersey at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Calgary at Arizona, 9 p.m. Carolina at Edmonton, 9 p.m. Chicago at Vegas, 10 p.m N.Y. Rangers at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Ice bucket challenge inspiration Pete Frates dies at 34

BY MARK PRATT Associated Press

BOSTON — Pete Frates,

a former college baseball player whose determined battle with Lou Gehrig's disease helped inspire the ALS ice bucket challenge that has raised more than \$200 million worldwide, died Monday. He was 34.

Frates died peacefully, surrounded by his family, they said in a statement.

"A natural born leader and the ultimate teammate, Pete was a role model for all, especially young athletes, who looked up to him for his bravery and unwavering positive spirit in the face of adversity," the family said. "He was a noble fighter who inspired us all to use our talents and strengths in the service of others.'

The ice bucket challenge began in 2014 when pro golfer Chris Kennedy challenged his wife's cousin Jeanette Senerchia, whose husband has ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease after the New York Yankees great who suffered

ALS patient Pat Quinn, of Yonkers, New York, picked up on it and started its spread, but when Frates and his family got involved, the phenomenon exploded on in the Boston suburbs, was from the money raised.

social media.

Take a bucket of ice water, dump it over your head, the same or make a donation to charity. Most people

did both. participated, including celebrities, sports stars and politicians — even Donald Trump before his election and cartoon character Homer Simpson. Online videos were viewed millions of

"The ALS ice bucket challenge represents all that's great about this country it's about fun, friends, family, and it makes a difference to all of us living with ALS," Frates said at the time.

The challenge has raised about \$220 million worldwide, including \$115 million alone for the Washington-based ALS Association. Lou Gehrig's disease, also known as amyotrophic latneurodegenerative disease

There is no known cure. Frates, a native of Beverly the world have benefited

a three-sport athlete at St. The process was simple: John's Prep in nearby Danvers. He went on to play baseball at Boston College. post a video on social media He played professionally and challenge others to do in Germany after graduation and in amateur leagues upon his return to the U.S.

He was playing for the Thousands of people Lexington Blue Sox in 2011 when he got hit on the wrist by a pitch and noticed that it wasn't healing properly. After months of testing, Frates was diagnosed with ALS in

"The man upstairs has a plan for me," he told The Salem News in 2012. "I'm not having too many issues with this, mentally. This is the hand I've been dealt and I've made my peace with it. There are people out there that don't have my support system or my advantages,

and I want to help them." As the disease progressed, he became paralyzed and had to use a wheelchair, lost the ability to talk and had to

be fed through a tube. With the help of funds eral sclerosis or motor neu- raised by the ice bucket ron disease, is a progressive challenge, significant investments in research on that leads to paralysis due to the causes of and potential the death of motor neurons treatments for ALS have in the spinal cord and brain. been made. Dozens of research institutions around

NORSE

Continued from B1 They did the things they

needed to." Hoover's third threepointer of the night gave Northfield a 30-23 edge in the third. While Emma Garriott stopped the bleeding with a layup with 30.3 seconds left in the frame, Baker knocked down a pair of freebies to keep the advantage at seven.

Both sides struggled offensively in the fourth with the first basket coming at the 3:41 mark on a layup from Kenzie Baer, matching Northfield's biggest lead of the night at 34-25.

"We told them at halftime 'You have to come out and your defense has to pick wasn't going the best," Allen said. "We told them defense was going to win this game and they believed us and did it.'

Mackenzie Day knocked down a three-pointer for Manchester's first basket nearly five minutes into the

followed with a layup to run) was just we missed close the gap to 34-30. Kearston Stout knocked down a jumper to push the advantage back to six points with But they regrouped and did under two minutes to go. Garriott would split a pair

of free throws with 1:47 left but would turn a steal into a score with a layup with 1:14 left to get the Squires as close as they had been all quarter at 36-33.

fourth, though, came on an offensive rebound after Ainsley Dale missed the front end of a one-and-one with 47 seconds. Baker would save the ball from going out-of-bounds before the Norse recovered possession. Stout would eventually be fouled and knock down both freebies, putting each had five. it up' because our offense the guests up 38-33 and icing the game away.

'I think it came from just having that confidence in the first half," Troyer said of how his team was able to stay in the game despite came back from (down) 10-1 early and responded. I

period and Ainsley West thought a lot of that (early stuff on defense. It was all stuff we talked about. We just had some mental errors. a good job. "Like I told them, we

gave up 17 in the first and 21 the rest of the game. The second half, we have to be better offensively executing and looking for shots, being confident. For some reason, The biggest play of the it's not there in the third quarter and as a coaching staff and a team, we have to figure that out."

Garriott led the Squires in scoring with 13 points while Day had six and West four. Hoover led all scorers with 14 points. Baker and Stout had six apiece while Baer and Emily Pennington

Northfield improves to 5-3 with its third straight Manchester falls to win. 1-8 with its seventh straight loss. The Norse host Taylor on Tuesday while the Squires travel to Huntingits offensive struggles. "We ton the same night. Both games are slated for 7:30 p.m. starts.

VIKINGS

Continued from B1

earn the win. "We had 18 offensive rebounds and just kept it alive which got us to the free throw line some because they shot free throws really well early. We didn't shoot them great but we shot enough of them that it made up for it. But, when you turn the ball over 25 times, you assume you're not going to have a chance to win. I think offensive rebounds took the place of us losing so many possessions the other way.

Huntington North had 18 offensive rebounds on the night, six of those coming from Cardwell, and outscored Southwood 18-0 on second-chance points. "We knew we were big-

ger than them," Teagle said. "They knew they were probably a little quicker than us. They were going to press us and try to make us handle the ball and we wanted to go inside. They did a good job early taking Jordan (Hollowell) out of the game. They didn't want him to have the ball in his hands. Jordan was just able to make plays. It was unfortunate he got into foul trouble because, for a while, he was the only thing we had going for us offensively. We have to have him on the court. He has the ability to make plays."

the Vikings on the board

Hollowell was a key figure on the night, leading all scorers with 16 points along with six rebounds.

on the night after going nearly five minutes without a basket to open the game. Hollowell's and-one followed by a layup closed the gap to 6-5 early on.

Hollowell knocked down a pair of technical free throws to tie the game at 9-9 before helping give the hosts a lead in the second with two more layups, the latter coming with a foul, too, as he scored 12 points in the first half. Still, trailing 16-13 after

the and-one from Hollowell, Southwood took back the lead after a three-pointer from Rich and a pair of free throws from Logan Barley. But Huntington North closed the half on a 10-0 run to take its biggest lead of the night into the locker Southwood responded in

the third with an 11-2 run to take the lead on a Simons basket with five minutes left in the period. Neither side found con-

tinued success on the offensive end on the night, Southwood finishing 12-of-35 (34.2 percent) from the field and Huntington North going 14-of-37 (37.8 percent).

"The thing about it is we don't play bad halfcourt defense but we turn the ball over so much we don't get to play halfcourt defense very often," Teagle said of his defense. "We're always in transition and it's hard to defend transition. I thought we did do some things defensively that were good to keep them in front of us late. And then I thought in The senior forward got the fourth quarter we were

so much more aggressive

about just attacking the rim instead of screwing around with the basketball. I think that was a big difference. It was important that we got more aggressive instead of being back on our heels."

Southwood had chances late in the game on top of the missed goahead and game-winners. Knights, The though. missed a handful of free throws in the latter stages of the fourth that also proved costly, finishing the game 16-of-23 from the line.

Rich had a team-high 13 points, Simons added 11 and Filip 10. Barley and Connor Rich finished with five and four, respectively. Both Carson Rich and Filip had four steals on the night. "I'm really happy with

how we came in here," Burrus said. "I thought the third quarter was the key to it being a good game. In the third quarter, we challenged them (and said) 'Hey, give us a chance in the fourth quarter.' That was big. I liked how we were patient. We have been for a long time. We shortened the game, kind of gave Huntington North a dose of what they do. And we felt like we were in a good position but we didn't hit the free throws. That's part of it.

"We executed down the stretch. We got some looks but it was usually one and done, though. Their kids, they did a nice job on the boards."

Southwood falls to 1-2 on the season and will be off until Saturday when they host Eastern.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Ohio St. jumps to No. 3 behind Louisville, Kansas in Top 25

BY DAVE SKRETTA

AP Basketball Write

nally provided some consistency to what has been a volatile Top 25 poll this season while perennial bluebloods Michigan State and tumble after another wave of defeats

The Cardinals solidified AP Top 25 released Monday after routing then-No. 4 Michigan in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge and breezing past Pittsburgh over the past week. The Jayhawks stayed at No. 2 after returning from their Maui Invitaitonal title last week to drop from 11th to thump former Big 12 member Colorado.

"I think it's two games in a row, where we got stops," Louisville coach Chris Mack said. "We didn't allow second shots. We ran the clock on offense. We got great looks. We got layups, and that's a killer."

Ohio State jumped from sixth to third following its 74-49 rout of then-No. 7 North Carolina and a blowdespite continuing to pile up

the season.

"There are always areas Louisville and Kansas fi- that you can improve on as a coach," Howard said. "I'll go back and look at film and evaluate and see areas we can counteract."

The Wolverines' in-state North Carolina continued to rivals have plenty of evaluation to do, too.

Michigan State was the preseason No. 1 after returntheir place at No. 1 in the ing a bevy of talent from last year's Final Four team, led by star guard Cassius Winston. But after a seasonopening loss to Kentucky in the Champions Classic, the Spartans lost to Virginia Tech and then fell to Duke to No. 16 in the poll.

> That drop wasn't nearly as startling as that of North Carolina, which tumbled 10 spots to No. 17 after losses to Ohio State and Virginia. The biggest culprit for the Tar Heels remains their offense, which failed to score at least 50 points in back-toback games for the first time since the 1947-48 season.

"This is the most frustrated I've ever been," North Caroout of Penn State. Maryland lina coach Roy Williams dropped one spot to fourth said. "I don't think we're playing basketball the way wins, while Michigan slid that I want us to play and one spot to round out the top that is probably the most five after Juwan Howard's frustrating. Pushing the bunch ran into the Louisville pace, sharing the ball, combuzzsaw for their first loss of peting like crazy — I've and Florida.

been very fortunate over the years, find the right buttons to push to get guys to do that and I haven't found the right buttons to push to get these guys to do it that way.'

The Tar Heels catch a breather this week with their only game Sunday against Wofford. Then comes another big showdown against sixth-ranked Gonzaga next week.

"We got to try to get better later this week," Williams said. "That's not the way that, hopefully, I've tried to coach for 32 years but that's the way that we're playing right now so we have to get that changed."

RISING

The biggest climb this week belonged to Baylor, which jumped seven spots to No. 11 after edging then-No. 12 Arizona 63-58 to run its record to 7-1. The Bears have emerged as perhaps the biggest challenger to Kansas in the Big 12.

Sixth-ranked Gonzaga, No. 7 Duke and No. 10 Oregon each climbed three spots. Dayton continued its move up the rankings after its run to the Maui Invitational title game, moving up five spots to No. 14. Butler rose six spots to No. 18 after the Bulldogs beat Ole Miss

Arizona dropped three spots to No. 15, Florida State fell four spots to No. 21 and Seton Hall tumbled six spots to No. 22 after a loss to Iowa State. As if that wasn't bad enough for the Pirates, they also lost key contributor Sandro Mamukelashvili to a broken right wrist against the Cyclones.

MOVING IN

Xavier moved into the poll at No. 22 after wins over Green Bay and Cincinnati, and San Diego State made its debut at No. 25 after edging San Jose State to improve to 10-0 on the season.

MOVING OUT

Utah State was the first team out of the Top 25 after needing overtime to beat Fresno State last week. Washington also fell from No. 22 out of the poll after a loss to Gonzaga.

THIS WEEK

Many schools have a light week because of final exams, but some big games are on the docket. Butler visits Baylor on Tuesday night, while Oregon travels to Michigan, Memphis visits Tennessee and Gonzaga heads to Arizona on Satur-

FALLING

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) surgery. Indianapolis Colts kick-

Colts will put

injured reserve

with knee injury

Vinatieri on

The 46-year-old Vinatieri hopes his stellar career ends differently.

knee.

Monday that Vinatieri will have season-ending surgery for an injury he atall season after first exknee at training camp.

Coach Frank Reich said team doctors had monitored Vinatieri throughout the season and that it performance at practice. reer. And the NFL's career scoring leader repeatedly refused to say that the inwhich he missed a leaguehigh 14 kicks — six ex- teams. tra points and eight field goals.

that revealed he needed season.

Indy (6-7) claimed rooker Adam Vinatieri will fin- ie kicker Chase McLaughish this season on injured lin off waivers last week. reserve with an injured left McLaughlin made all of his extra points and two of three field goals in Sunday's 38-35 loss at Tampa Bay. But he missed The Colts announced a 47-yarder in the fourth quarter.

Vinatieri has played in the fourth-most games in tempted to play through Colts history, trailing only Reggie Wayne, Peyton periencing soreness in the Manning and the Johnny

In addition to holding the scoring record with 2,673 points, Vinatieri also holds the league record with 599 didn't affect Vinatieri's field goals made in his ca-

The four-time Super Bowl champion is the third-oldest player to parjury played any part in an ticipate in a game and is uncharacteristic season in the only player to top the 1,000-point mark with two

And even though Vinatieri could become a free Reich said when the agent in March, Reich knee flared up again last said Monday that Vinaweek, Vinatieri had a scan tieri hopes to play next

MLB

Union executive Marvin Miller, Simmons elected to Hall of Fame

BY RONALD BLUM

SAN DIEGO — Marvin Miller, the union leader who revolutionized baseball by empowering players to negotiate multimillion-dollar contracts and to play for teams of their own choosing, was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame on Sunday along with former St. Louis Cardinals catcher Ted Simmons.

committee ballots, Miller received 12 of 16 votes from this year's 16-man modern committee, exactly the 75% required. Simmons was on 13 ballots, and former Boston outfielder Dwight Evans was third with eight.

Miller, who died at age 95 in 2012, led the Major League Baseball Players Association from 1966-82, a time when players gained the right to free agency after six seasons of big league service, to salary arbitration and to grievance arbitration. He led the union through five work stoppages and was an adviser during three more after he re-

Miller and Simmons will be inducted into Cooperstown during ceremonies on July 26 along with any players chosen next month by the Baseball Writers' Association of America from a ballot headed by former New York Yankees shortstop Derek

After several turndowns, Miller had asked not to be considered for the Hall, calling the process "a farce." He asked his children not to participate and his son, Peter Miller, confirmed in an email to The Associated Press that planned to not attend the in-

"It would have been a great honor 20 years ago," Miller's daughter Susan said in a telephone interview with the AP. Simmons, involved in a happy for all the people who high-profile contract dispute in 1972, recalled how Miller

united a disparate group of

players. "Marvin would patiently After falling short in his mons said. "No matter how want to be considered anyfirst seven times on veterans inane, no matter how unthought out, no matter how off the mark the question came, Marvin painstakingly, patiently waded through it all. And in the end, after everyone had spoke their mind, he would bring it all together and present it in a way that everyone felt as though, yes, this is exactly what we collectively think."

Simmons, an eight-time All-Star during a 21-year big league career, was a switchhitter who batted .285 with 248 homers and 1,389 RBIs for St. Louis (1968-80), Milwaukee (1981-85) and Atlanta (1986-88).

Despite his accomplishments, Simmons was up for election by voters from the BBWAA just once. He drew only 3.7 percent support in 1994 and was removed from future BBWAA ballots.

Miller will be inducted 12 years after Bowie Kuhn, the baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn whom Miller routinely defeated in labor negotiations, and three years after Bud Selig, the commissioner who in 1994-95 presided over the longest work stoppage in baseball's history.

"The Hall of Fame is called the Hall of Fame and Museum. Imagine a museum of baseball without Marvin

Miller in it?" former union a committee considering exchief operating officer Gene Orza said. "It's like having a museum of modern art withare happy. But I don't think Marvin would lose any sleep one way or the other over this."

In 2008, four years before wait for every single player he died, Miller sent a letter to to speak their mind," Sim- the BBWAA saying he didn't more.

"He repeatedly reaffirmed that wish during his lifetime, as well as his intention not to participate in any HOF activity if elected," Peter Miller wrote in an email to the AP. "He requested that I do likewise, and I'm sure all his well-wishers will understand that I am bound to honor his wishes. So the HOF results this year change nothing."

Peter Miller called baseball free agency "an integral part of the story of American freedom" and said a reception in his father's honor will be held at National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., on April 22, to mark the display of a photograph of his father.

Players averaged \$19,000 in 1967, when the union first started calculating, and just over \$240,000 during Miller's final year. The average is now over \$4 million.

"He gave players freedom and money that has made the game better for everyone," Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench tweeted.

Miller received 44% of the votes in 2003 and 63% in 2007 when all Hall of Famers could participate on a veterans panel. After the Hall downsized the veterans committees, he got three of 12 votes later in 2007 from

ecutives that elected Kuhn.

"I am surprised," said Donald Fehr, the union's out Picasso in it. I guess I'm head from 1983-2009. "Ï have long thought that eventually academics if no one else would create the necessary momentum to rectify the omission, rectify the wrong. I'm glad to see that they have bestowed that recognition. It's long overdue and immensely deserved."

Miller got seven of 12 votes in 2009 and then, when the format was changed again, he got 11 of 16 from an expansion era committee in 2010 — falling one vote short. He received six votes or fewer of 16 in 2013 and seven of 16 from the new modern era committee in

"Players are pleased that Marvin will now take his rightful and long overdue place in the Hall of Fame in recognition of the monumental and positive impact he had on our game and our industry," current union head Tony Clark said in a statement.

Nicknamed Simba for his shoulder-length hair, Simmons was an outspoken opponent of President Richard Nixon and the Vietnam War. In the days before free agency, he played much of the 1972 season without a contract because of a pay dispute, finally agreeing to a two-year deal in late July.

Now 70, Simmons received 17 of 456 votes in 1994, falling shy of the 5% threshold to remain on the ballot. Simmons was on 11 of 16 ballots when the modern era committee met in 2017 and elected Jack Morris with 14 votes and Alan Trammell with 13.

Sharks are circling around the Patriots

BY BARRY WILNER

cling around Foxborough.

usual. They have lost two ther defeat. For sure, at 42 Tom Brady has taken a step Trophies is entitled to.

mistakes to lose to a New York team, never mind to with what surely will be an uplifting victory for them.

Hey, Bill Belichick has been outcoached in all three of his team's defeats; yep, the Patriots are 10-3 even with all the doomsday gloom directed their way. Actually, if you examine his body of work real closely, you'll find enough examples of Belichick being outsmarted or offkilter, including in Super Bowls lost and won.

loud proclamations this week of the Patriots beand read such evaluations before, including when they went 11-5 in 2018 all the losses were on the road — and had to play the AFC championship game in Kansas City.

Let's not jump to conclusions just yet.

"I don't want to make any predictions," Brady said after the 23-16 loss that pushed the Patriots ba-Baltimore (11-2 with a win against New England) in the overall AFC scheme. "I don't think that's — I think we come in with a plan to get better every week and try to win each game. Each game takes on a little different feel and the situations are a little different, and it's a different team every year, too.

"So, I may have certain experience doing things, as a whole hasn't been through different situations. So, you just try to the course of the whole season, and we have three big games to go, and we've got to get back to winning football."

That figures to happen

The Patriots really have faced only three strong It might be freezing in teams at the times they met New England. That won't - Buffalo, Baltimore and stop the sharks from cir- Houston - and lost two of those games. They take on Criticism of the Patriots the Bills in their 15th game is more fair right now than and, could it be, actually could lose the AFC East in a row, not looking like for the first time in who a championship team in ei- can remember should they

drop that one. Then again, they could backward, which anyone win out, which is more who has won six Lombardi likely, and get at least a first-round playoff bye. And the air of invinci- The AFC is weak enough bility at Gillette Stadium that division winners can has been compromised feast on the weaklings severely by Kansas City. and make the postseason The Chiefs made enough no matter how they fare

against the better teams. What should concern New England, yet escaped Brady and company is that opponents aren't likely to fear them, even in Foxborough, this winter. We already know from past experiences that the Ravens don't; there isn't another team or coach that carries more swagger into the Patriots' home than Balti-

more and John Harbaugh. Buffalo, even in its loss Sunday to the Ravens, showed a ton of moxie it would do well to bottle for its trip to New England. We're sure to hear very Houston, even with its monumental flop Sunday at home against Denver afing done. We've heard ter seemingly getting over the hurdle it kept stumbling on against the Patriots, has to be emboldened should it face the Patriots

in January. Certainly the Chiefs will be. No, they aren't as strong as last year — the defense is better but possibly not improved enough to make a Super Bowl, and the offense is imbalanced. That shouldn't diminish sically two games behind the significance of Sunday's victory.

What surely is fair is to look at is the NFC and recognize that New Orleans, San Francisco, Seattle and Green Bay are formidable. And, yes, we'll say it right here, all of them are better than the Patriots at this time.

San Francisco took huge steps in a tight loss at Baltimore and then in this weekend's victory at New but this particular team Orleans, a game to rival Seahawks-49ers of last month for best game of the season. Seattle, despite its work through them over loss at the Rams, is capable of outplaying and outmuscling anyone. The Packers have as much balance as anyone. Oh yeah, they also have Aaron Rodgers.

What do the Patriots next week at Cincinnati, have? Lots of maneaters yet another weak opponent ready to pounce. Can they on this year's schedule. fend them off yet again?

CFP

Continued from B1

a look at it. But I wouldn't jump to any conclusions on it. I just think we'll take a look at what's right about it. Take a look at the ways it might be improved and see where it gets to."

Even the guy who should be leading the charge toward expansion, Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott, whose league has been left out four times in six seasons, doesn't appear to be in any hurry.

years where we did not son with an chance to win make the playoff," Scott the national championship

said Friday night before Oregon beat Utah in the Pac-12 championship game to ensure it would be three straight. "Absolutely helped shape a perception that the conference was down. I think we've all seen this is a year where the conference has been stronger top to bottom, including elite teams in the hunt for the playoff at the business end of the season. Yeah, these are important

milestones." A funny thing has happened since the start of the playoff: Double the number "We're coming off two of teams enter the postsea-

compared with the Bowl Championship Series days, but the number of teams truly capable of winning it all has not changed.

In five years, there have been three champions: Alabama and Clemson twice and Ohio State once. Add in Oklahoma and those four teams have taken 17 of the 24 playoff bids over six seasons. Four is enough to deter-

mine the best team in college football. There is certainly a desire among some fans for expansion, but the outcry is not nearly as loud as it was with the BCS.

Expanding the field will enough to keep those clambe mostly about growing oring for expansion quiet.

the sport, which is a polite way of saying making more money. It's not just television revenue that would increase with more playoff games. A bigger field would make more teams contenders to simply get in. Just as expanded playoffs in professional sports are designed to keep more fans engaged throughout the season, so too would an eight-team field in college football.

Automatic bids for at least Power Five champions would take a lot of the subjectivity out of the process.

But for now, it's four – and this year that was

Oldest employee gets more night shifts than colleagues

DEAR ABBY: I work in a small office with five other people. Due to the nature of our business, we work various shifts throughout the day.

I am the oldest employee, Dear and when it comes to our Abby schedule. feel discriminated against. I usually get four night shifts and one day shift a



week. Everyone else gets one night shift and the rest daytime shifts.

The lead technician is the one who arranges our schedule. If I ask her about it, she tells me she has no one else or some similar excuse when I know she easily can change things to make it more fair. I am not one of her "buddies," probably because I'm at least 20 years older than the rest.

I just get very frustrated every time I see my new schedule. Even the part-time people get better hours than I do. Is this discrimination? Wondering In Iowa

DEAR WONDERING: Did you fill out a form listing your availability as open or flexible? If so, modify it. If you truly feel you are being discriminated against because of your age, talk to your supervisor's boss about it. And if things are not made more equitable, consider reporting it to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

DEAR ABBY: I am asking for advice about our daughters-in-law. We have two sons whose wives want to spend every holiday with their parents, period. No alternating holidays. This means my husband and I spend the holidays alone, then "get" to have a get-together at a date and time convenient for them.

I know our sons are partly at fault, but they are trying to keep peace in their lives. Any suggestions would be appreciated. One daughterin-law used the excuse that her grandfather is 99 and may not be around forever, to which I replied that I'm 70 and NONE of us know how long we have.

We raised our daughter to respect her in-laws as well as us, and she alternates holidays. Please help with this, Abby. - Missing Out In Texas

DEAR MISSING OUT: This happens in many families. I wish I could wave a magic wand and turn your daughters-in-law into less-insensitive, more-caring people, but I can't. Your sons are more than "partly" at fault for not insisting on fairness. Because they're not assertive, the most pragmatic suggestion I can offer is that you make plans of your own for the holidays that don't include them – the nicest your budget allows.

DEAR ABBY: Please do not reveal my location if you print this. I live in a small town and am part of a club that meets monthly. We are less than a dozen gals who discuss a book or politics. I know they all socialize with each other. With one exception, I have never been invited.

That said, we have different interests outside the club. They are smart, fun, loving women. However, I have felt that on more than one occasion, a comment was directed at me that I am not welcomed. I have been told, "Don't take it personally." Should I? How do I address this? - Hurt In The West

DEAR HURT: This book club should not be your only social activity. Surely you have other interests, as these women do. If you felt a comment was made that caused you to feel unwelcome, the appropriate response would have been to say, "Would you please clarify that comment?" Or even, "My feelings are hurt. Why would you say that?"

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother. Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

8 London's

11 Alert color

13 MSN rival

McEwan

15 Black-andwhite

30 Feels

portraver

33 Ms. Hagen

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34 Finish a

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12 Vintage

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39 LV 40 Go for the gold 41 Novelist Beattie 42 Fruity drink 45 Cleaning fluid 49 Poetic tribute 50 Filmdom's Jezebel 52 Tibetan

whales gazelle 16 Give 53 Grassy 17 Tomb expanse 54 Love affair builder 19 Singa-55 Decompore's 56 Klutz language 21 — and outs 57"Forrest 22 Pop's

companion 58 Coast 23 Boring situations Guard off. 26 Banishing **DOWN** 1 Plumbing under par problem 31 Trimmed 2 No 32 Maude

18 Outfits 20 Lb. or oz. 22 Silence 23 Apply a problem! mudpack 24 Ceremony 3 — St. Vincent 25 Mr. Alda Millay 26 That hurt! 4 Goose 27 Mountain eggs 5 Have goat 28 Without a rash

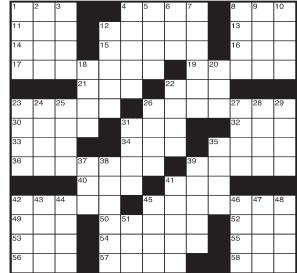
a mixer

6 D.C. gun 29 Indiana city 7 Universe 31 Quote 8 Colorado 35 Carton ski town of milk 9 Greek 37 Adam's letter mate 10 Potter's

Answer to Previous Puzzle

38 Car safety need feature (2 wds.) 12 Speckled 39 Deride horses 41 Be bratty (2 wds.) 42 Ariz. neighbor 43 Glimmer-

44 Unhearing 45 Ion source 46 Troll's kin 47 Midday 48 Dines 51 Bird of Oz

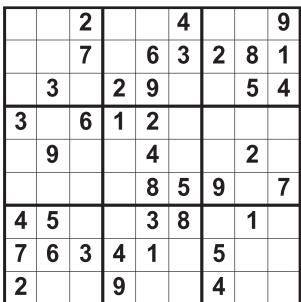


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SUDOKU

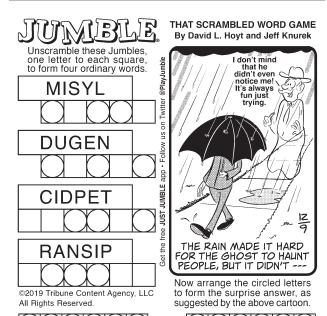
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

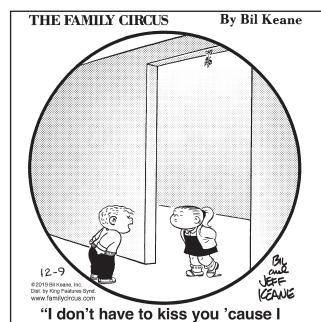


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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.



HIS (Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: SIGHT TIPSY SMOOTH PIRATE The construction of the staircase wasn't going Answer: well because of all the $-\ MISSTEPS$



don't even BELIEVE in mistletoe!"

BEETLE BAILEY





BLONDIE



HI & LOIS

BC

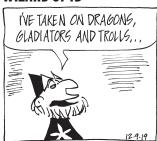


CAN I APPLY FOR BANKRUPTCY AND KEEP MY CAVE?





WIZARD OF ID







DILBERT







GARFIELD







FORT KNOX











Man's standard falls short of God's plan for mankind

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

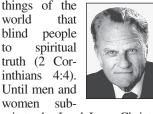
Q: What does the Bible mean when it says that people are dead in trespasses and Billy

sins? - S.A.Graham **A:** The Bible speaks of the My Answer things of the

world blind

truth (2 Cor-

inthians 4:4).



women submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, they are spiritually dead. They do not understand the truth of the Bible. They may quote it, they may even say they believe it; but when it does not change their life, when it does not lead them to obedience,

they are spiritually dead. This means that the communication between God

wonderful world of joy, light,

harmony, peace, and satisfac-

tion to which millions of peo-

ple are blind and deaf – dead.

They long for serenity, they

and man is broken. There is a

seem never to find it. Often their despondency leads to frantic experimentation with alcohol, narcotics, immorality, defiance of authority, rebellion, etc. This only leads to a sin-blighted existence. All the while God is there speaking and beckoning.

Many people are interested in what God has to say perhaps out of curiosity. They want to analyze His message according to their standard. To such people, God may remain the great cosmic silence. Man's standard falls short of God's plan for mankind. He and only Son.

search for happiness, but they has communicated His message of forgiveness and love to those who are willing to hear and receive His Word, and then obey it. We must humble ourselves before Him. This is exactly what hap-

pened to Adam and Eve. When they realized their sin and their shame, they knew they had fallen short of His standard. The all-knowing God knew the heart of man and He devised a way to bring man back into a full relationship by building a bridge. That bridge is the Lord Jesus Christ, God's one

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by far Each letter in the cipher stands for an

"IGN EHENUIX IGJI EJBN TRON LHWIG LGNU IGRUPX

TJCPG." - JES XAGCENW

Previous Solution: "The inescapable price of liberty is an ability to preserve it

from destruction." — Gen. Douglas MacArthur TODAY'S CLUE: X signbə g

Mom weighs bringing defiant daughter on family vacation

DEAR ABBY: One of our daughters (18) has been rebelling for the last couple of years. She's not doing well in community college. She is dating a drug

Dear

Abby

user and has been caught in lie after lie, including about spending the night friends at homes.

She has now decided she no longer

wants to live with our rules, which include staying enrolled in college full time and making progress, doing a few household chores, telling us where she is going and when we can expect her home, and having no overnighters. She has moved out and in with a friend.

We know she's immature and will grow up eventually. We are heartbroken but understand we can't control this. We are praying for her safety.

We have an out-of-town wedding coming up and have decided to make a family vacation out of it. On one hand, we want to include her, not wanting to destroy what little relationship we have. On the other, we do not want to be "used" for a fun vacation. Because she has chosen to live on her own as an adult, she must pay her own way (which she can't afford). Should we take her or not? - Mom Of An Almost-Adult

DEAR MOM: Your daughter has made a choice – to be out from under your thumb and on her own. The "price" for her independence is being unable to depend upon you and your husband to foot the bill for her expenses.

Would she be running wild and staying out all night if you take her with you? You would have to set some rules beforehand and get her to agree to abide by them if she is going to be included with her sibling(s). A positive experience as a family may be what you all need right now. But only you can decide whether it's worth taking the chance.

DEAR ABBY: I am recently divorced, but my husband, "Danny," and I still see each other. The other night he mentioned that his ex-girlfriend texts him. He also allows her to follow him on Instagram but says he isn't following her. It really bothers me because she and Danny were in contact when we were married, "just as friends" is what he said. He repeated with 100% certainty that he has no interest in ever getting back together with her.

I spend a lot of nights at his place, and he spends nights with me, so I guess I have to trust his word, but it's eating me up inside. I have asked him to not allow her to follow him on Instagram, but he has not done that yet. He said he doesn't care who follows him. - Unfollow In Connecticut

DEAR UNFOLLOW: I'm confused. Exactly what is your question? You say you are divorced, but you are still acting - and thinking like you are Danny's wife. He's a free man now, and you not only do not have the right to dictate who should or shouldn't follow him on Instagram, but also don't have the right to tell him he can't see another woman if

he wishes. Face it, you are BOTH free now. You can't be cheated on by a husband who is no longer your husband. Consider this: It might be healthier for you to spend less time with Danny and devote more time to moving forward with your life.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother. Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

GPA

13 Gospel

writer

15 Born as

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16 Brain

17 Single entity

18 Stair part

20 Overact 21 Seed

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24 Circular

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27 Borodin

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33 Bam!

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36 Good

29 Web addr.

34 Fem. saint

35 Mae West

buddy

37 Air show

38 High pts.

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39 Solar

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12 Fossey's

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40 Type of prof. 41 Shoulder 1 Pursue 4 Bankrolls enhancer 42 Radio per-8 Bedwear, briefly sonalities 11 Part of 44 Bernhardt

of the stage 47 Zeus shield 51 Tumult 52 Wine

deposits 55 Remove, branches 56 Commo-

tions 57 Two-piece cookie 58 Overwhelm 59 Tan or Grant

60 Sea bird 61 Male parent **DOWN**

1 Feel like 2 In charge 3 Curved molding 4 Hard guy to find 5 Gl address

6 Chaper-

oned girl

7 Compass 30 Road map nos. 8 Chubby 31 For fear

Answer to Previous Puzzle

9 Jupiter's that 37 Urn wife 39 Bleachei 10 Short play shout 14 Summer in 41 Fall guy Cannes 43 Husband 19 Dr.'s visit of Medea

20 Play it 22 Served ice cream 23 Cried out in pain 24 Mr. Sulu's place 25 Ignore 26 Greases

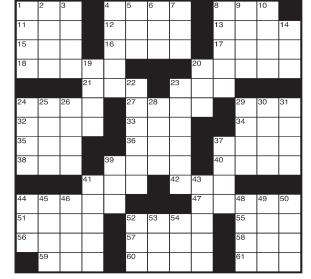
28 Horned

animal

29 Employs

44 Mexican Mrs. 45 Non-soap opera 46 Latitude 48 Happy 49 Hawkeye State

50 Hurried 52 Realty unit 53 Before now 54 Always, in poems



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: 会会会会会

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12/10 © 2019 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS PREVIOUS SOLUTION

> How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. BORUT **GARWE DPLUED** YEONRR THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY WAS A LITTLE FURTHER ---Now arrange the circled letters ©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC to form the surprise answer, as All Rights Reserved suggested by the above cartoon.

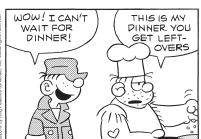
THE here: (Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: SLIMY NUDGE DEPICT The rain made it hard for the ghost to haunt Answer: people, but it didn't - DAMPEN HIS SPIRIT

Answer



BEETLE BAILEY





BLONDIE





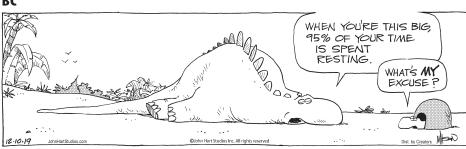


HI & LOIS

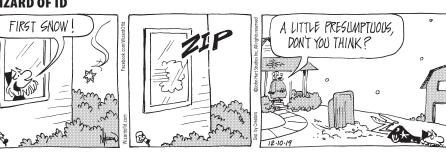




BC



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT







GARFIELD







FORT KNOX





PICKLES









Dirty appetites becoming principle satisfaction of life

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Sexual obsession is destroying our nation and way of life. Society is throwing out the Ten Commandments to make room for vulgar-

form. Why can't our society see this destruction and stop calling it freedom speech? of - S.S.

ity in every

A: Western

Billy

Graham

My Answer

society has become so obsessed with sex that it seeps from all the pores of our national life. No longer is it covered in brown paper and stashed in back of the checkout coun-

Today, freedom of speech implies the freedom to corrupt the minds of the people, inciting every form of sexual perversion. There've been laws forbidding open

sewers and cesspools so

there should be laws forbid-

scenity, but people stumble over the definition of the word "obscenity." If we cannot agree on the length of a foot, it is because we have lost our yardstick. No one has ever improved upon the moral yardstick given to man in the Ten Commandments. We have changed our moral code to fit our behavior instead of changing our behavior to harmonize with God's moral code. Pornography is anything

that depicts lewdness in such a way as to create impure thoughts and lusts.

ding pornography and ob- However, the sewers continue to flow, destroying the moral fabric of our society. No one can deny that dirty appetites are becoming the principle satisfaction of life.

> Just because society says that immorality is a form of freedom of speech does not make it right. The Ten Commandments are just as valid today as they were when God gave them, and God is watching and listening, and one day He will bring judgment. May those who follow Him continue to stand on the Word of God, for it leads to right living.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

"SIKGHNDKKJYMW YH NCYH HGLGWK

IYNXGZ NCGN OXHN G PGDKNKIYG

MVE." - GZY EVMW

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